MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2450 — WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1890. — SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

MARRIAGE.

On the 14th inst., at the London Mission, by the Rev. G. H. Bondfield, Mr. ROBERT BLACK, chief engineer, steamer *Mongkut*, to Miss LIZZIE MOORE, of Bangkok.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT,

ISSUED GRATIS TO ALL SUBSCRIBERS,

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1890.

LOCAL PHARISEEISM.

WOULD it not have been just as well for our morning contemporary to have made some inquiry before publishing the paragraph in its issue of yesterday (27th inst.), in which, on the mere *ipse dixit* of an anonymous correspondent, "a female of a certain class" is accused of having taken the lead at the Race-course in what is described as "a most indecent and revolting spectacle"? Considering the very grave nature of the charge, and in view of the fact that the attention of the police is specially directed to the alleged offence, we consider that the *Daily Press* has laid itself open to severe censure. As to the "Correspondent," if he is a man with the slightest pretensions to be ranked as a gentleman, he will at once, above his own name, give particulars to the community of Hongkong of this "most indecent and revolting spectacle," which he says he witnessed at the Race-course. The credit of the colony is at stake in a matter of this sort; if "indecent and revolting spectacles" are exhibited by women in public places in open daylight, it is high time that the police authorities took active steps to put down such disgraceful scandals. But is this correspondent's serious accusation true? We are assured that it is not, and the inquiries we have made strengthen that assurance.

It appears that on Friday evening last a new arrival in the town—described as "a female of a certain class" in the *Daily Press*—committed the great enormity of indulging in a few waltz steps with a certain male person at the Race-course, believing that their impromptu practice for the winter dances now in full swing was only witnessed by their personal friends. The *Daily Press* correspondent does not even mention the male person, so we don't know to what class he may belong, but it is long odds that the proposal to waltz came from the gentleman and not from the lady. Of course, considering the strictly moral atmosphere which has ever enveloped the Hongkong Racecourse, it was very wrong of the lately arrived young female to fancy herself in San Francisco, and under that erroneous impression commit such an enormity as to waltz in open daylight with a gentleman—who, at least, certainly ought to have known better; but we very gravely doubt whether such perfectly innocent recreation, no matter how bad the taste displayed by both these disciples of TERPSICHORE, can be fairly described as "a most indecent and revolting spectacle." Where does the indecency come in, and what can there possibly be revolting in a woman dancing a few waltz steps with a man even on the Race-course? Has this the highly moral correspondent of our morning contemporary ever been at a picnic with women of his own class in Hongkong? If he has, we are quite sure that waltzing formed part of the day's programme, and it would therefore be interesting to know if he regarded dancing under such circumstances as a "most indecent and revolting spectacle"? If he did not he is amusingly inconsistent, for there is nothing more heinous in waltzing on the Race-course than at Stanley or at Kowloon.

It must not be imagined for a moment that we are specially defending the so-called "unseemly conduct" of this erring female; on the contrary we think that she did not exercise a wise discretion in making a public exhibition of herself before this anonymous purist in open daylight, and would strongly recommend her to be more circumspect in future. Had the waltzing taken place under the cloud of darkness, or even in the falling shades of twilight, the shocking and "unseemly conduct" of these young people would not have offended the gaze of this modern Pharisee, whose moral tendencies have been so grievously hurt. We would remind the correspondent of the *Daily Press* that unsanctified wisdom is the devil's greatest tool, and now leave him to extract a moral to suit himself from the foregoing remarks.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

H.M.S. *Merlin*, Lieut.-Commander G. H. Yonge, homeward bound, arrived at Singapore on the 16th inst.

THE rebels have murdered a French family named d'Argence, near Sontay. The victims—M. d'Argence, his wife, and little boy—had lived at the place nearly three years.

WE observe that a once well-known Hongkong cricketer, Major Churchill, of the 58th Regiment, has come out at the top of the batting averages in the Kandy Club with the very good figure, for 16 innings, of 23.7.

A LIEUTENANT in the forces at Tuyen-Quan, Tonquin, named Chaudoreille, was shot the other day, whilst out shooting. A companion's gun caught on a rice-stem, and the charge entered Chaudoreille's head.

A TELEGRAM from Yokohama dated the 21st January says that Mr. G. H. Scidmore, Vice and Deputy Consul-General for the United States of America at that port, has received telegraphic instructions to report for duty at Washington.

ALTHOUGH Singapore has formally lowered our colors on the board of green cloth, her champion will not leave us with an untouched record. Both Captain Davidson and Mr. Russell Stokes have, we learn, succeeded in vanquishing Mr. Braddell in a friendly game.

A FOOTBALL match, "Yokohama" *versus* "Kobe," was played at the latter port on the 20th inst., and resulted in a drawn game, neither side succeeding in scoring. "The game was very fast throughout," says a facetious contemporary. We should say it was.

AFTER several days' stoppage, the Peak cars recommenced running this afternoon (Jan. 27th). The half-yearly trial of the cable, breaks, etc., was made on Saturday, and proved entirely satisfactory until the last test was made, when the brerk of one car, that was being run backwards, gripped the rail so firmly that it could not be got off, and the survey had to be postponed until to-day, when the Surveyor "passed" everything.

WONDERS will never cease. The *Hongkong Telegraph* has long been interdicted by the authorities in Manila—even the Englishmen there were forbidden to take it, although, we need scarcely say, we have several subscribers there who dare the penalties. And now the *Comercio* publishes a translation of our leading article on the Anglo-Portuguese quarrel, which appeared in these columns on the 10th inst. And yet that same *Comercio* shrieked for our annihilation a year ago.

ACCORDING to a Japanese contemporary, the Governor of Kanagawa Ken having reported to the Department of Home Affairs the desirability of Major-General Palmer being sent to England for five months for an examination of the recent improvements in the way of harbour construction, and to inspect the dredger and the vessel to be used in the carriage of concrete which were ordered from England, the sanction of the Cabinet has been obtained, and he will leave for England at once.

WHATEVER of the other events Hongkong may be victorious in, her colors have been lowered in respect to billiards. Last evening (22nd inst.) Mr. Russell Stokes played Mr. R. W. Braddell, the Singapore champion, a game of 500 up, at the Club. The Press were not there, but Mr. Braddell was, for he drew away right from the outset, making some fine breaks, including one of 60 and another of 53 (14 spots) and running out 173 ahead. Mr. Stokes was not in his usual form, we understand, his best exhibition being a break of 31.

THE kidnapping of the Europeans at Haiphong the other day has roused the French authorities to unusual activity. The Residents of the districts surrounding Ben-chan—the scene of the outrage—are having the country scoured, and a strict look-out is being kept. One officer attacked a band of Chinese, killing several, and a prisoner, on being interrogated, said that three Europeans had passed, not long before, in the middle of about a hundred Chinese and natives. It was dangerous to pursue, for fear that the prisoners might be killed, and a ransom has been offered

AT a regular convocation of United Chapter, No. 1341, held on the 27th inst., the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—

Comp. H. L. Stringer	M. E. Z.
" W. Baker	H.
" W. Goulbourn	J.
" J. R. Grimble	Treasurer
" J. White	Scribe E.
" T. Spafford	Scribe N.
" T. Bryant	P. S.
" W. Robinson	Dir. of C.
" G. Snelling	Steward
" T. Maxwell	Janitor

THE Chinese idea of a Happy New Year is all their own. This ought to have been a particularly gay and festive anniversary, if the millions of millions of crackers that have been let off are any criterion. Excepting for the never-ceasing fusillade, though, this 16th year of Kwang-su has been ushered in very decorously by the community. All business was at a stand-still on the 21st inst., of course, and the break was still on when we went to press. Even the police have done nothing. The Chinese are said to have "settled up" without much difficulty, very few bankruptcies being reported. We wish the native portion of the community the usual—*Kong hay, fat tsoi.*

AT the Hongkong Rifle Association's competition, for the Kwoon Kwan Yeen Challenge Cups, held on Saturday last, Mr. E. L. Woodin won the big Cup for the third time, the second prize falling to Mr. Ford, also for the third time. Notwithstanding a very heavy breeze blowing across the range, Mr. Woodin showed some fine shooting at the long ranges with his Metford match rifle, scoring for fifteen shots at 700 yards 69 points, at 800 yards 71, and at 900 yards 68. With ten shots each at three and five hundred yards Mr. Woodin made 46, and at six hundred yards 42, a miss at the last named range spoiling the average.

PRIVATE Pinfold, R.E., is a very ill-used man. Yesterday morning (26th inst.) he was looking over the verandah of the Barracks, counting up his chances of a commission, when he saw a coolie snatch a hairpin from off a woman's head, as she was riding along in a rickshaw. Pinfold jumped over the verandah on to a cook-house, and thence into the street, and chased the thief away down Queen's Road and up the hill to Headquarter House, where he caught him. After giving him into custody he went back to his quarters, only to be arrested for breaking out of barracks! His prisoner got six months this morning, and it is possible that he may share a similar fate. But it will be hard lines if he does.

CAPT. O'Keeffe will have an opportunity of putting his philanthropic offer respecting the shipwrecked Kanakas into practice, as they were to have arrived by the *Ancona* on the 27th inst. The *Hyogo News* says of them:—They are cleanly in their habits and persons, will not allow any of their number to strike a match, and are perfectly content to sit about all day, without desiring to go out. Their rations consist of fried salmon, three eggs or thereabouts, bread, molasses, etc. for breakfast; beef, potatoes, vegetables, and hash for dinner, with pork and any odds and ends for supper. They are given just as much as they can eat. They are scrupulously honest and perfectly peaceable among themselves. They only have one scruple, and that is with regard to their hair; this they will not have cut under any consideration. They have been visited by a good many people, and are, as a result, well provided in cigars and tobacco, together with a spare yen or two.

A FIRE was discovered just at daybreak yesterday morning, in the first floor of No. 23, Bonham Strand, occupied by general dealers. Although there was a lot of kerosene, wood, rice, and other inflammable stuff there, the assistance rendered by the Fire Brigade was so prompt that the damage was confined to that floor. There was a fire at the same place on the 30th ulto. The insurance amounted to $4,000.

DOC TICH, of whom the Tonquin soldiers and press have had their fill, left for Algeria on New Year's Day, with his family. He thought he was going to be sent among convicts, and asked for death, in preference. He was told, however, that he might possibly return. His parting words were that he would study the French—their language and their civilisation, and be able to prove on his return that his submission was sincere.—Civilisation is not much in vogue though, in Algeria, we opine.

EARLY this month the barque *Joseph A. Spinney* picked up a canoe containing six South Sea islanders who had been blown out to sea, and were in a starving condition. They were taken to Kobe, and the question now is—How are they to get back. Capt. O'Keeffe, the man who collects all the copra, offers to settle the matter, if the Japanese authorities will assist him. He is going back in about a week, and will take them down for nothing. He thinks they are Mugamug Islanders, and he wants to keep solid with that interesting race. Anyhow, it is very kind of him, and the Japanese Consul ought to wire for the men to be sent down at once.

WE have heard many inquiries lately whether Chief Justice Sir James Russell intends resuming his duties in this colony—and if so, when? The learned Judge obtained six months leave of absence, in addition to two months' vacation leave, on the 16th of last April, and, so far as the public here are concerned, who are the persons most materially interested—nothing has been heard of him since. As over nine months have elapsed since his Honour vacated his seat in favor of Mr. Fielding Clarke, the taxpayers of Hongkong are not unreasonable in wanting to know how much longer the Chief Justiceship is likely to remain an acting appointment.

ON the 25th inst., shortly after midnight, a fire broke out in a shop in Lyndhurst Terrace, known as the Fashion Emporium, belonging to Mr. J. Gomes. The proprietor said that he left no light in the shop when he went out, two or three hours before, and yet, in a few minutes from the outbreak being discovered, the whole of the shop was blazing fiercely. Some Japanese girls, one or two Europeans, and a China-boy, who lived above, had some difficulty in getting out, as the door was locked, and they had to scramble round the verandahs into the next house. The Brigade arrived promptly, and worked so well that in about twenty minutes the blaze was quite extinguished, the rooms above the shop being practically uninjured. The place was insured with the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. for $10,000.

THE dinner given by the members of the Hongkong C. C. in honour of the cricketers from the Straits Settlements was held in the St. George's Hall on Saturday night. His Excellency Governor Des Vœux, Major-General Edwards, Commodore Church, R.N., and a large number of Hongkong's leading residents assembled to do honour to our guests, the Hon. W. M. Deane, President of the Cricket Club, ably fulfilling the duties of Chairman. A very agreeable evening was passed, winding up with a smoking concert in St. Andrew's Hall which was highly appreciated. The Cricketers' Ball at the City Hall last night also proved a great success, passing off without a single hitch. Although our Singapore visitors may not have met with the success they anticipated on the tented field and in the rowing contests, we feel assured that one and all of them will acknowledge that the Hongkong Cricket Club and the community generally have done all in their power to make this historical visit an enjoyable holiday.

NEWS of the derelict *Rock Terrace* still reaches us. Captain O'Keeffe, who is here on his annual visit from his home in the Carolinas, handed a small tin case to our reporter on the 24th inst., which he said he had got from the natives of the Sonsarcille, or St. Andrew's Islands, last February. He was going his rounds among the various stations, as he had done for years, and was visited by clusters of canoes. In one of them was a native formerly in his employ, who gave him the case, which contained three photographs, a duplicate bill of exchange, and a master mariner's certificate, issued by the Minister of Marine for Canada, in 1881, to Augustus Welsford Harris. The Kanaka said that about three months before a water-logged ship—the biggest he had ever seen—drifted past, with her tattered sails flapping. He and the other islanders boarded her, and found her deserted, the deck being below the surface. They dived into the cabin, and got out a variety of things, such as compasses, sextants, etc., and this case. Captain O'Keeffe thought it could not be the *Rock Terrace*, as soon after that she drifted ashore over a thousand miles away, in a contrary direction to that in which the current set. On referring to the report of the Court of Inquiry held in May 1888, however, we find that the name corresponds with that of the first mate, so that it must have been that vessel, and the mystery is explained.

THE *Courrier d'Haiphong* states that the Government spies have found the kidnapped Europeans. The military authorities are strongly censured for their general unwillingness to grant escorts to *concessionaires*. The Resident of Haiduong has sent a letter to Luu-ky, the chief of the band which holds the Messrs. Roque and Mr. Costa prisoner, and another to the latter, with clothes, comforts, etc. In response M. Henri Roque wrote, under date the 14th inst. He said that his brother Victor had his arms paralysed in consequence of the violence he had been subjected to, and could only move with assistance. They had not been ill-treated since their capture, but that was due to their captors' anticipation of a heavy ransom. M. Costa had had a slash over the ear, but was getting better. He (the writer) was black and blue through the blows showered on him, but was also improving. Their chief discomfort was travelling barefooted, having only one shoe among the three men. Their Chinese "boy" and Annamite servant were with them, and had been of much assistance. They were still parleying over the amount of ransom when he wrote. M. Roque's Annamite "boy" also wrote to his cousin, saying that the party had been carried off far into the forest, and no one knew when they would get back. His master was very tired and feeble, and he had to stop and help him, otherwise he (the boy) could get away. The same messengers carried back Luu-ky's ultimatum. The Resident at Haiduong afterwards left for a rendezvous, taking $7,000 for M. Henri Roque's release. Luu-ky insists on being pardoned and granted a concession as part of his terms.

A TELEGRAM from Kobe, dated the 13th inst. says:—Inland Sea pilots arriving here from Shimonoseki report a sunken wreck half way between Maranita Beacon and the red buoy in Shimonoseki Straits. The wreck, the mast of which is visible, lies in mid-channel, and is a serious danger to navigation.

THE *Bangkok Times* of the 15th inst. says:—Some weeks ago we reported that grave fears were entertained regarding the safety of the small local steamer *Chamræn Phæn*, and we now learn the sad news that she is a total wreck down at Koh Smui. It appears that she left here for that place in order to take in a cargo of cocoa-nuts and on arrival anchored on the east side of the island. Shortly afterwards a strong gale began to blow and the vessel was found to be drifting towards the shore. The gale increasing in intensity, there was not time to get up steam and consequently the *Chamræn* struck the rocks with considerable force and commenced to fill. The crew of ten men, together with Capt. Quee, an Annamite, got safely on shore and shortly afterwards the steamer became a total wreck. The owner of the vessel, is Mr. Poh Chin Soo (Phya Phrawesan)—who also owns the *Queen of England*. The *Chamræn Phæn* was not insured. The Captain has now gone down to try and recover the engine and boiler and, from the position of the wreck, it is hoped this will prove an easy task.

THE MEDICAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY IN CHINA.

The fifty-first annual meeting of the Society was held in Canton, at the house of Messrs. Russell & Co., on the 24th January. Present:—Dr. J. G. Kerr, President, in the chair; Rev. A. P. Happer, D.D.; Mr. C. Alabaster, H.B.M. Consul; Mr. Chas. Seymour, U.S. Consul; Dr. D. J. McGowan; Mr. F. E. Woodruff; Dr. Schramier, Vice-Consul for Germany; Rev. Messrs. C. Bone, G. Hargraves, H. J. Parker, W. Bridie, P. F. Wisner, Rev. B. C. Henry, D. D.; Rev. R. H. Graves, D. D.; Rev. A. A. Mitchell, D. D.; Dr. H. M. McCandliss, Dr. E. C. Machle, Messrs. G. D. Fearon, A. Kenmure, Rev. W. E. Robbins, M. A.; Miss M. W. Niles, M. D.; Miss M. Fulton, M. D.; Mr. A. S. Dyer, Dr. So Fo Ming, Dr. Leung Tin, and Dr. J. M. Swan, M. D.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Kerr who, on taking the chair, requested the Rev. G. Hargraves to open with prayer, after which the notice convening the meeting was read by the Secretary.

On the proposition of the Chairman the minutes of the last annual meeting, which had been printed and circulated, were taken as read.

The minutes of a called meeting of the Society held on November 27th, were read by the Secretary, the object of this meeting having been to consider the purchase of a small lot of ground to the east of the hospital premises.

These minutes were also approved.

The Treasurer's account not being at hand, it was moved by Dr. Happer and seconded by Mr. Hargraves, that the same be referred to the Managing Committee for acceptance after being audited. This motion was carried.

The hospital account was presented, of which the following is an abstract:—

RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1888 account	$ 154.17
Cash from Messrs. Russell & Co. per order Rev. E. G. Simmons and Dr. Wales	1,532 95
Room-rent, medicines sold, fees, books sold	1,004.15
Cash on Dr. Thomson's appropriation	200.00
	$3 791.27

EXPENDITURE.

Aid to poor, hospital repairs, improvements, &c.	$ 415.45
Printing, block cutting, &c.	552.22
Wages of assistants, teachers of medical class, coolies, &c.	912.05
Insurance, native supplies, hospital furniture, and sundries	442.79
Foreign medicines and supplies	1,048.57
Cash paid on Dr. Thomson's appropriation	200.00
Balance cash to new account	220.00
	$3,791.27

After inspection, on the motion of Dr. Happer, seconded by Mr. Bone, the hospital account was accepted.

The report of the Hospital and Dispensaries was then presented by the Secretary, the following abstract of which was read:—

AT CANTON.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Out-patients (Attendances)	15,271	4,386	19,657
In-patients	874	393	1,267
Surgical operations	1,353	683	2,030
Visits at homes	102	275	—
Sz-pai-lau Dispensary (Dr. Mary Fulton.)			
Out-patients (Attendances)	—	7,204	7,204
Surgical operations	—	256	256
Visits at homes	—	57	57
Tung-tak St. (Dr. Mary Fulton).			
Out-patients (Attendances)	—	1,962	1,962
Surgical operations	—	66	66
Yeung Kong Hospital and Dispensary. (Dr. J. C. T.)			
Out-patients (Attendances)	9,530	6,284	15,814
In-patients treated at homes	—	—	75
Surgical operations	—	—	510
Kiung-chow (Hainan) Dr. McCandliss.			
Out-patients (Attendances)	—	—	4,774
In-patients	—	—	108
Visited at homes	—	—	140
Sz-ui Dispensary.			
Out-patients	1,878	1,434	3,304

The revision of the translation of Thomas on Diseases of Women has been completed and the work published in five volumes. The Manual of Diagnosis has been recut, a new work on Surgery is in the printer's hands, and a Dictionary of Medical terms in English and Chinese in course of preparation.

Daily religious Services in the Chapel, conducted by the Rev. Kwan Sui and the Rev. Dr. Henry, have been continued as usual. The School for patients (women and girls) and their attendants has been kept up, and the attendance and interest have been gratifying.

On motion of Dr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Bridie, the report as presented was accepted, and the usual number ordered to be printed, in English and Chinese.

The following report of the Managing Committee was then presented:—

1.—Your Committee respectfully report that the hospital buildings are in good repair and that nothing will be required for the current year beyond ordinary repairs and some painting in the women's wards.

2.—A lot on the east side of Hospital grounds being offered for sale it was represented to us by the Physicians in charge that it would be desirable to have this lot for the purpose of improving the Sanitary conditions of the hospital, and your Committee united with them in calling a special meeting of the Society to consider the proposition. This meeting was held on the 27th of November and the purchase authorized at a cost within a limited sum. The lot was unfortunately secured by another bidder.

3.—Dr. Thomson's semi-centennial address, which was referred to the Committee for publication, is not yet ready for the press. Dr. Thomson hopes to be able to complete it soon.

4.—The possible extension of the new Bund in front of the hospital grounds may require the expenditure of some money, and the Committee ask for discretion in this matter, not to exceed $300.00.

5.—The following estimates are recommended for the expenses of the current year:—

For current expenses of the hospital	$1,800.00
For foreign medicines and supplies	1,000.00
For repairs and improvements	300.00
For cutting blocks of medical books and printing	300.00
For Ye-ing Kong hospital and dispensary, Dr. Thomson	200.00
For Kiung Chow hospital and dispensary, Dr. McCandliss	150.00
For Sz-pai-lau and T'ung-tak dispensaries, Dr. Fulton	150.00
For Sz-ui dispensary, Rev. Dr. Graves	150.00
For amount at discretion of Committee, as above, No. 4	300.00
	$4.350 00

R. H. GRAVES,
Chairman, Managing Committee.

It was moved by Mr. Alabaster, seconded by Mr. Hargraves, and duly carried, that the report of the Managing Committee be accepted.

The Committee appointed to consider plans for the establishment of an asylum for the insane presented the following report:—

The Committee appointed to prepare a Scheme for the establishment of an Asylum for the Insane in Canton, met on January 23rd, 1890, at H.B.M. Consulate, C. Alabaster, Esq., H.B.M. Consul, in the chair, and adopted the following resolution as its report to the Society, viz:—

Resolved, that we recommend the carrying out of the Scheme for the establishment of an Asylum for the Insane in Canton be committed to the gentlemen interested, to form a separate Society.

CHAS. ALABASTER, Chairman.

On the motion of Mr. Hargraves, seconded by Dr. Henry, the report was adopted and the Committee discharged.

The Chairman stated that we had with us two gentlemen who were very much interested in this Society. Dr. D. J. McGowan, one of the oldest foreign residents in China, formerly connected with this Society, and who had done many years of Medical Missionary work in Ningpo, and the Rev. Dr. Mitchell, one of the Secretaries of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, who was especially interested in the Society, because the physicians working under it were supported by the Board of Missions which he represented. The Chairman said he was glad to see so many gentlemen present on this occasion, and he was sure they would all be pleased to hear a word of encouragement from Dr. McGowan and the Rev. Dr. Mitchell.

Dr. McGowan then said—It is not far from half a century since I became personally acquainted with this Society, having had for a time the privilege and advantage of assisting the Rev. Dr. Parker, and in his absence acting in his stead. The present anniversary is, I believe, the first meeting I have been able to attend, but I have received all its reports, which have kept me in touch and sympathy with uninterrupted continuity. The reports, like the one just read, are not to those who can read between the lines mere statistics, with dry explanations, but are replete with interest which, if submitted in popular form, would awaken the best emotions of the human heart. Merely to look at the tabulated cases, amounting in number to about 20,000 patients at a cost of 15 cents per head, gives no definite idea of the value of the work accomplished. If time allowed I could show from a glance at each category of subjects a great amount of suffering alleviated or removed, but I restrict my glance to the class of urinary calculi, operations for which during the past decade have averaged more than one per week. Consider the great amount of unbearable suffering that has been removed, the success attending the operations being unprecedented, greatly owing to Dr. Kerr's skill and partly to the Chinese being less susceptible to danger from hemorrhage. But the *practice* of medicine and surgery pales in importance to the clinical instruction afforded to native students which, in turn sinks into insignificance compared to that which is imparted to native practitioners through works on medicine and the collateral sciences, which Dr. Kerr and his collaborators, Dr. Dudgeon, of Peking, the late Dr. Osgood, of Foochow, and others have given to China. That these works are understood and appreciated by native practitioners is evinced by their continued and increasing sale. They are penetrating every portion of this great Empire, and those published a generation ago by Dr. Hobson on physiology, surgery, midwifery, &c., are still in demand. The list of Dr. Kerr's works includes treatises on Materia Medica, five volumes; Theory and Practice, six volumes; Chemistry, four volumes; Diseases of Women, four volumes; Eye Diseases, Skin Diseases, Hygiene, &c., each of which works meets a demand which I might indicate did time permit. Let me say a word on that which heads the list, Materia Medica. That this meets a want is obvious from the fact that a large portion of the standard—in fact, I may say the only authoritative work on Materia Medica in China—a whole chapter, that which concludes the ponderous work, may be styled "man's place in the Pharmacopœia" for it enjoins the use of every portion of the human frame and every secretion of the body in the treatment of bodily ailments. This medical superstition regards man's body as wholly composed of therapeutic agents, a superstition which in its effects is undoubtedly discivilizing, and one of the consequences of the publications of this Society must ultimately be the expurgation of that loathsome, hideous medication. It is regretable that Drs. Kerr and Swan and the lady practitioners are precluded by modesty from presenting the claims of and explaining more fully the work accomplished. This appears particularly in the scant information furnished in relation to lady practitioners. It was reserved for advanced thinkers of the latter part of the waning century to recognise the claims of women to receive instruction in the healing art, but no sooner had colleges commenced conferring degrees of doctor of medicine than women doctors sped to the ends of the earth with the self-denying and benevolent fervour that characterises the sex, to minister like angels to their suffering sisters. In less favoured climes, China has received a fair portion of these estimable ladies, and two have favoured this city by their advent. It is too early yet to discover the advantages the cause of Christian missions will derive from their zealous and intelligent labour. Their value is not to be judged by occasional events such as we have just witnessed in the voyage which Dr. Mary Fulton made up the coast, then into the interior to prescribe for a venerable lady, mother of an officer high in the mandarinate, and returning with laurels on her brow. Such opportunities are rare, but the value of their labours are to be gauged by their continuous wearing labours in dispensaries and hospitals, in their intrepidity, exposing themselves to malarious poison, extending bedside succour with quiet tender devotion. Yet even that is not the arena in which they display their almost superhuman charity. It is in affording to parturient women the blessings of western medical science, lessening the pains and perils of child bearing. Dr. Mary Niles' obstetrical and uterine operations, almost always nocturnal, in remote places and in filthy hovels—averaging one case a week—serve more to remove hostility against foreigners than all other medical labours combined. Nor does this fully represent the work carried on by these ladies. The clinical instruction which they impart to classes of Chinese women are sure to germinate, fructify, and bear fruit after its kind almost illimitably. It is not possible for man, woman born, who is entitled to be styled a man, to be void of sympathy for efforts made to mitigate the pains and avert the perils attendant on maternity; those efforts will bear fruit through all the long centuries, cycles, and chiliads to come, a fore glance and harbinger of the hopes fervently prayed for. May Heaven vouchsafe blessings on your noble exertions, awarding success, and then by making you contented and happy.

The Rev. Dr. Mitchell was then called on. He expressed his sense of the privilage it was for him to be present at this meeting. He had known for many years of the work of this Medical Mission Society and felt a special interest in the same, as the Board of Missions which he represented was a partner in the sacred business carried on by the Society. For a large part of the time under Dr. Kerr's management the gradual evolution of this work was simply wonderful, and one can but exclaim "what hath God wrought!" There are no dry statistics of this work, even though the good accomplished cannot be tabulated. These statistics run like fire through the hearts of christians at home, and the most successful appeals to the public in raising money for similar work in our large cities have been made by simply stating what has been done here in Canton and elsewhere by these benevolent and Christian institutions. Dr. Mitchell said he felt peculiar pleasure in meeting this society, between which and the Board of Missions which he represents a partnership may be said to exist in this great and benevolent work. In taking a glance at this partnership we find that your society contributes for the expenses of the work in the Canton Hospital about $3 300, while the Presbyterian Board contributes the same amount for the support of the physicians. But your society has work in other parts of this province, and this work is conducted for the most part by Medical Agents of the Presbyterian Board, for whose support they expend not less than $10,000. His Board had seventeen Medical Missionaries at work in this Empire, and in some places the people were very poor, and there were no foreign residents to share the expense. The amount expended upon them and their work was about $35,000 gold annually. He said he did not refer to this in any way of boasting, for he rejoiced in the honour of being associated with a Board of Missions taking such an active part in affording relief to suffering humanity in all parts of the world. He would remark that in all the Mission fields connected with his Society, there were forty Medical Missionaries, male and female, and there was no less than $70 000 gold expended annually in the support of them and their work. While in many places the entire expense of medical work fell on his Board, he was moved with a deep sense of satisfaction in finding such generous and powerful aid to the work in Canton and he would long remember this occasion and the pleasure he experienced in attending this meeting.

Remarks by others followed expressing high appreciation of the work carried on by the Medical Missionary Society.

The Treasurer's Account was at this time brought into the meeting, a summary of which is as follows:—

1889. *Dr.*

Dec. 31	To Canton payments per orders Rev. E. G. Simmons and Rev. R. H. Wales, M.D., No. 16 to No. 24	$1,881.95
	To Balance carried forward to new account	2,223.33
		$4,105.28

Dr.

Jan. 1	By balance of account rendered	$1,661.17
" 25	" Cash received from Bethel Fund	148.45
Dec. 31	" Cash received from miscellaneous donations	170.70
Dec. 31	By Cash received from Subscribers	1,993.23
" 31	" Interest	132.75
		$4,106.28

The election of officers for the ensuing year was next in order.

On the motion of Dr. Henry, seconded by Mr. Alabaster, the Board of Officers was constituted as follows:—President—J. G. Kerr, M.D.; Sen. Vice-President—Rev. A. P. Happer, D.D., M.D.; Vice-Presidents—Hon. W. Keswick; Mr. W. H. Forbes; Hon. P. Ryrie; Mr. H. L. Dalrymple; Rev. John Chalmers, M.A., LL.D.; Rev. R. Graves, M.D.; Mr. A. Rowe; Mr. T. B. Cunningham; Mr. Chas. Seymour, U. S. Consul; Mr. C. Alabaster, H. B. M. Consul; Mr. H. Budler, Consul for Germany; Rev. F. Hubrig; Dr. D. J. Macgowan; and Mr. G. D. Fearon. *In Europe*—Rev. Prof. J. Legge, D.D., LL.D.; Ven. Archdeacon Gray, LL.D.; Mr. Alfred Duval; Mr. Theo. Sampson. *In United States*—Mr. Delano. Treasurers Messrs. Russell & Co. Auditor—The Commissioner of Customs. Secretary—J. M. Swan, M.D. Managing Committee—Rev. R. H. Graves, M.D.; Rev. T. W. Pearce, Mr. T. B. Cunningham, Mr. G. D. Fearon, and Dr. J. G. Kerr.

On the motion of Dr. Happer, seconded by Mr. Hargraves, a vote of thanks was passed, viz:—To Dr. Wales and Dr. Mary Fulton for assistance rendered on various occasions; to Mr. Consul Seymour and Mr. Tsai Sik Yun, for their interest in obtaining subscriptions from Chinese Officials; to the proprietor of the *China Mail* for printing the annual Report at a nominal price; to the trustees of the Parsee Zoroastrian Charity Fund for a generous subscription.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman.

J. M. SWAN, Secretary. — J. G. KERR, Chairman.

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

The first ordinary meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held at noon to-day (23rd inst.), in the City Hall. The Hon. J. J. Keswick presided and there were present—Hon. C. P. Chater, Messrs. D. R. Sassoon, J. S. Moses, S. C. Michaelsen, G. E. Noble, Lee Sing, and Poon Pong (directors), J. S. Lapraik, C. D. Bottomley, H. Hoppius, T. J. Rose, P. Jordan, E. C. Ray, W. H. Ray, H. N. Mody, S. I. Danby, R. Fraser-Smith, D. McCulloch, J. Watson, W. Legge, J. H. Cox, G. T. Veitch, T. Arnold, R. Lyall, C. W. Dickson, C. W. Richards, C. S. Taylor, McCallum, R. T. S. Wright, W. H. Gaskell, W. Wotton, C. A. Tomes, J. Manuk, G. C. Anderson, R. Talbot, A. McConachie, E. A. Ozorio, H. Z. Just, J. A. Mosely, Gartells, Judah, Turner, Cross, Palmer, E. George, E. Georg, A. Lind, W. H. Gaskell, M. da Roza, etc., and Mr. S. Hooper (secretary).

The Chairman said:—I do not propose to read the report for the eight months to 31st December last, as it has been in your hands for some time, but I am very desirous of taking advantage of the opportunity which now presents itself to me of amplifying the report as much as possible, and of affording the fullest information in my power in reference to the accounts. As a matter of fact the report presents to you only the very barest outline of the results of the Company's operations, and I feel it is my duty to tell you everything with regard to the concern in which you are so deeply interested, which you may wish to know, and which you are so fully entitled to expect. I need not remind you that the Company has only been working for eight months, and that makes it all the easier for me to tell you the precise nature of its operations. During that period your Directors have used every endeavour to invest as much as possible of the funds on mortgage, and until the close of the year our advances so made had reached the important sum of $1,301,600. These advances have in every instance been made on first-class security which shows an ample margin, and the rates of interest obtained are fully up to and in some instances exceed those which have been generally current during the period before us. I think the shareholders will generally agree with me that in the time we could not have expected to advance more than we have done, as so much depends upon the financial, commercial, and general prosperity of the Colony. We may not, indeed, be always able to do as well, and it is important to avoid giving any unduly encouraging promises which may not be realized. I think it a fitting place here to remark that it is not at present apparent how the large funds at our disposal are all to be remuneratively employed, unless we extend the powers of the Company as to its sphere of operations, but that is a subject which your Directors will take occasion to bring before you at another time, if there is a fair prospect of our obtaining the powers I allude to. Now, gentlemen, I have in the remarks I have made been alluding only to the moneys we have advanced on mortgage, and there remains the equally important section of our business to be reported on to you as fully as I can, and that is the purchase of property. You will note from the accounts that we have bought property during eight months to the value of $805,781.58, and I think I may assure you of the fair promise those purchases afford of giving us a good profit on our investments. None of the properties have been resold, or been offered for sale; most of them are in course of being developed, and will eventually yield a good return on our outlay. Upon these no profits have been been taken into the accounts. The details of these purchases I do not propose to submit to you unless any shareholder requests me to do so, when, as I have the particulars here, I will readily comply. I think, however, that unless any gentleman has particular reasons for wishing them published, it would be just as well to ask for them from the Secretary later. It does not occur to me that I can usefully say anything more in the way of amplifying the report, and I will now turn to the accounts. Like the report, the accounts only furnish the general result of our operations, and give no details such as a working account might supply, and which I desire now to give you in as adequate a manner as possible. In the first place I may say that we could not, from the nature of our business, furnish, except in a cumbrous way in the accounts, just the information I now propose to give. Our business consists practically of the two branches I have before alluded to in this address, viz. the advancing of money on mortgage and the purchasing of property, and a list of these cannot well, or usefully, be included in our accounts. I do not overlook our commission business on estates under the Company's management, but as it does not involve the outlay of money I do not require to specially notice it here. Well, to come to the details of the accounts, we are first interested to see what the net profits are, and although they are, perhaps, nothing very remarkable, they are, I think, as good as we could expect in the time, and I believe you will readily admit that a good deal of activity has been displayed to invest judiciously as much as we have done, and to realize by interest on mortgage and money on deposit, and rents and some commission, the sum of $128,967.71, which equals 7 per cent. per annum on the capital. Perhaps the least encouraging feature in the accounts is the large sum of unemployed money we have in hand, but we have not had time yet to dispose of so much, and, as I have already said, your Directors hope to be able at an early date to ask your sanction to a wider field of enterprize in order that we may more easily and more advantageously utilise their funds. The shareholders will naturally wish to have some idea of the charges attaching to the business, as these are not indicated on the debit side of the Profit and Loss account. Well, including salaries, rent, preliminary expenses, stationery and petty charges they amount to $12,442.81, which I hope you will consider moderate. I think I have nothing further of interest to mention to you, gentlemen, and I hope in my remarks I have omitted nothing to which I have been expected to allude—if I have I shall be glad to make good the omission. I should, before resuming my seat, say that the Company has begun the year well, that all its operations, all its business, are good and sound, and that with steady, prudent management, we have every reason to expect a satisfactory future. In fact, I may tell that at the present moment we have only about $1,200,000 uninvested, and if the expectations of the Directors are realized this sum will probably be very considerably reduced. Before proposing the adoption of the report and the accounts I shall be glad to reply to questions any shareholders may wish to address to me.

Mr. McCulloch—Seeing that on this occasion you have issued no working accounts—there are no details at all given in this report—might I ask if you have any objection to sending out a further account, giving some details to the shareholders? There are a great many things you do not tell us, relating to the property and working expenses.

The Chairman regretted if he had failed to clearly convey that information in his address, but, as he had stated, it would be very difficult indeed to convey to the shareholders, except in a very cumbrous form, any particulars as to the property. The Secretary would give any details after the meeting, having brought the books down for that purpose. As regarded the issue of a more detailed statement of accounts, he hardly supposed that the general body of shareholders wished for it. (Hear, hear).

Mr. McCulloch—I would ask, then, if in future, whenever it is possible to give details, you will do so?

The Chairman—I think I shall be interpreting the feelings of my co-directors when I say that it is their desire to give full information to the shareholders regarding the Company's operations which may be rightly and properly put in the Company's accounts. The accounts are not the report—they are merely figures, and to make a statement therein of the matters into which our operations have extended—in the buying of property, mortgages, etc.—would be very unusual, and, I am afraid, very cumbrous. We will, however, furnish as full details as possible.

Mr. McCulloch—You can have no objection to say what the expenses are. The accounts do not show that.

The Chairman—Perhaps I should have mentioned that these are purely details, which can be learnt with the utmost ease from the managing directors, or the Secretary.

Mr. C. S. Taylor—Before passing these accounts I should like to ask a question. It is with reference to Mr. Chater's position as managing director—I should like to ask what connection he had with the inflation and the depreciation in value of the stock of this Company. From what I myself know—a broker came to me one day and said that Mr. Chater had told him that this Company was his pet scheme—that he had abandoned his other business in order to give the whole of his time to it, and he was going to make it one of the biggest things in Hongkong. Now we have one or two big things in Hongkong—Mr. Noble has a "baby" at nurse (the H. K. and S. Bank) which we do not expect will pay less than 20 per cent. next year, and Mr. Keswick has a prodigy in the Hongkong Insurance Company, which people tolerate so long as it pays 40 per cent. When these statements came from Mr. Chater that he was going to make this the biggest Company in Hongkong we expected better results than a beggarly 7 per cent. It seems to me that if one broker was repeating this, a good many others would be also doing so, and if their clients bought Land shares at $150 I daresay they thought they were buying a good thing. Now if they confined themselves to cash transactions there might not be much harm, but there were a very large number of sales "on time." I do not know who sold, but I am told it was Mr. Mody. The connection between Mr. Mody and Mr. Chater may not be very apparent to everyone here, but to an old resident like myself the names are synonymous. What Chater does Mody seconds, and what Mody does, Chater is interested in. When I look at this report I cannot think that Mr. Mody was acting entirely in the dark, and the connection between Messrs. Chater and Mody is on other lips besides mine. You will remember the notice that was posted up on a prominent building here, to the effect—"Oh! Chater, why are Lands still going down? Is Mody still bearing?"—and the connection of Mr Chater with—

The Chairman—I think that this meeting will agree with me that anything of a personal nature, such as these remarks, is out of place ("Hear, hear.")

Mr. Taylor—It is more to the credit of this Company that Mr. Chater should have an opportunity of repudiating the connection of his name with Mr. Mody's. That is the object of my remarks—I do not make them in any spirit of animosity to him—("Hear hear")—nor on my own account, for I have not been one of those "left" in Land shares; I merely ask that Mr. Chater should repudiate what has been the subject of common gossip, that he had any knowledge and interest in the forward sales of this stock. ("Hear hear.")

The Chairman—With regard to the remarks just made, it could not be expected of anyone in the chair that they should be passed over entirely without reply, or that he should fail to dissent to the allusions made to a colleague on the Board. I feel it my duty to say that I still believe that any such comments as were made by Mr. Taylor were personal and beyond the business of the meeting (Applause).

Mr. Chater—And now, gentlemen, in reply to the first question put by Mr. Taylor, I have to inform you that I am interested in Mr. Mody—that every transaction he does I have a half interest in—but he is at liberty to do what he pleases, he never consults me as to what he does, and he may buy, sell, or do what he likes in our joint interest. But at the same time—for the information of the gentleman who has chosen to speak about my interest in others—I am the registered holder of 2500 shares allotted to me, that have never seen the light, or been in the hands of a broker. They are still there to-day, and I own them at the present time. (Applause) That is the largest number that can possibly be held, therefore I could not take any more, but I hold more in the name of my clerk, which never saw light, either. If Mr. Mody chooses to sell shares in his own name no one can stop him, but as to getting any knowledge of what the Company is doing from me, it is perfectly absurd. There is nothing done by the Company which is not known to the directors, or which any shareholder could not learn, on inquiry at the office. Therefore Mr. Mody, whatever he does in this as in every other stock which he buys and sells, he does in our joint interest, and I am not ashamed to say it. He certainly gets no knowledge or information from me with regard to the working of this or any other Company (Applause).

Mr. Taylor—I have listened to Mr. Chater's remarks with a good deal of pleasure, and I have no doubt they will carry their due weight with every shareholder. ("Hear, hear.")

The Chairman then proposed the adoption of the report.

Mr. J. D. Lapraik seconded, and was passed.

Mr. Morris proposed the confirmation of the appointment of Messrs. Lee Sing and Poon Pong as directors.

Mr. Veitch seconded. Passed.

Mr. Brodie moved, and Mr. Judah seconded, the confirmation of Mr. D. R. Sassoon's appointment as director. Confirmed.

Mr. Hoppius moved, and Mr. W. H. Ray seconded, the re-election of Messrs. J. S. Moses and G. E. Noble as directors. Agreed to.

Mr. Tomes moved, and Mr. McConachie seconded, the re-election of Messrs. F. Henderson and A. W. Maitland as auditors.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAM-BOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report of the Board of Directors to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held at the office of the Company, on Friday, the 31st January, 1890, at 12 o'clock noon:—

The Directors beg to submit to the Shareholders the Report and Statement of Accounts for the half-year ending 31st December last.

After paying running expenses, salaries, premia of insurance, repairs and all other outgoings, there remains, including $5,481.28 brought forward from last account, the sum of $159,940.92 at credit of Profit and Loss Account. From this sum the Directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 7 per cent. on Capital or $112,000, and a bonus of 1 per cent. or $16,000, be paid to Shareholders, and that $2,500 be written off the value of the Iron Lighter *Sun Lee*, leaving a balance of $29,440.92 to be carried forward to new account.

The Gross Receipts on account of steamers' traffic for the half-year under review are in excess of those for the corresponding six months of 1888, but a slight diminution on the net earnings has been caused by the continued high price of coal.

During the half-year the *Powan* and *Kiungchow* have undergone the usual annual Government Survey and overhaul, and the *Fatshan* has been docked for inspection. The amount expended for repairs has been comparatively small, but as stated in the last report, considerable outlay upon the *Honam* will be necessary when next she docks. Duplicate Electric machines at a cost of about £300 each have been ordered for the *Fatshan* and *Powan*, and a new main deck for the latter vessel has been contracted for with the Dock Company at $12,200.

The completion of the Company's new steamer *Heungshan*, now building at Leith, has been delayed by a succession of strikes in the shipbuilding trade, but she is now being pushed on as rapidly as possible, and may be expected here during the spring.

The increase of Capital referred to in the last report has all been subscribed, and the premium on the new shares, amounting to $600,000, has, in accordance with the resolution to that effect, been passed to the credit of Depreciation and Insurance Fund, which now stands at $850,000.

The Company's surplus funds, as will be seen by the Statement of Account herewith, have been invested principally in Loans on Mortgage. A list of these Mortgages has been submitted to Messrs. Bird and Palmer, Architects and Surveyors, who certify that they consider the securities good cover for the amounts loaned.

Acting upon the expression of opinion of a majority of Shareholders at the last half-yearly Meeting, your Directors cancelled the then existing Policies of Insurance on the Company's steamers, which had the effect of bringing about a material reduction in the rate of premium at which underwriters were willing to accept the risks. Under these circumstances, it was deemed advisable to again insure the fleet against all risks to the extent of 50 per cent of cost, which action, it is trusted, will meet with the approval of the Shareholders.

The retiring Auditors, Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and F. Henderson, offer themselves for re-election.

P. RYRIE,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1890.

Dec. 31, 1889. ASSETS.	
Value of 5 Steamers and 5-8ths of *Fatshan*	$844,000.00
Value of Wharves	20,000.00
" Cargo-boat	750.00
" Iron Lighter *Sun Lee*	15,000.00
" Coal and Stores	7,573.62
" Spare Gear	3,031.60
" Furniture	750.00
" Shares in Public Companies	2,847.99
Remittance on account of New Str. *Heungshan*	108,510.00
Chinese Bonds, (at par)	41,500.00
Hongkong Hotel 6 per cent. Mortgage Debentures	703,000.00
Loans on Mortgage	925,500.00
Fixed Deposits with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	85,000.00
Fixed Deposits with Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China	100,000.00
Fixed Deposits with New Oriental Bank Corporation, Limited	50,000.00
Cash with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on Current Account	254,940.73
Interest accrued to date	10,621.69
Sundry Debtors	9,242.35
	$2,682,267.98

Dec. 31, 1889. LIABILITIES.	
Amount of Capital, 80,000 Shares of $20 each, fully paid-up	$1,600,000.00
" at Credit of Depreciation and Insurance Fund	850,000.00
" at Credit of Equalization of Dividend Fund	50,000.00
Sundry Creditors	22,327.06
Amount at Credit of Profit and Loss Account	159,940.92
	$2,682,267.98

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dec. 31, 1889. *Dr.*		
To Amount paid for Extraordinary Repairs to Steamers:—		
Powan	$4,281.49	
Kiukiang	593.65	
Fatshan	957.25	
Kiungchow	1,207.03	$7,039.42
" Legal Expenses, &c., in connection with New Share Issue		666.33
" Amount of Bad Debts, written off		73.35
" Directors' and Auditors' Fees		3,250.00
" Balance to be appropriated, viz.:—		
Dividend at 7 per cent. on $1,600,000	$112,000.00	
Bonus at 1 per cent. on $1,600,000	16,000.00	
To be written off value of Iron Lighter *Sun Lee*	2,500.00	
Balance to be carried to new Account	29,440.92	159,940.92
		$170,970.02

June 30, 1889. *Cr.*	
By Amount brought forward from last Account	$5,481.28
Dec. 31, 1889.	
By Net Earnings of Steamers	111,700.51
By Interest on Investments	53,622.73
By Transfer Fees	165.50
	$170,970.02

DEPRECIATION AND INSURANCE FUND.

Dec. 31, 1889. *Dr.*	
To Balance	$850,000.00
	$850,000.00

June 30, 1889. *Cr.*	
By Amount at Credit	$235,000.00
July 1st.	
By Amount of Prem. on 40,000 New Shares at $15	600,000.00
Aug. 3rd.	
By Amount brought forward from Profit and Loss a/c for half-year ending 30th June, 1889	15,000.00
	$850,000.00

EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDEND FUND.

Dec. 31, 1889. *Dr.*	
To Balance	$50,000.00
	$50,000.00

June 30, 1889. *Cr.*	
By Amount at Credit	$45,000.00
Aug. 3rd.	
By Amount brought from Profit and Loss a/c for half-year ending 30th June, 1889	5,000.00
	$50,000.00

E. & O. E.
Hongkong, 23rd January, 1890.

T. ARNOLD,
Secretary.

We have compared the above Statement with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities of the Company, and certify the same to be correct.

A. O'D. GOURDIN, F. HENDERSON, } Auditors.

AMOY RACES, 1890.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Stewards:—T. M. Boyd, Esq.; J. F. Broadbent, Esq.; R. H. Bruce, Esq.; R. J. Forrest, Esq.; John Graham, Esq.; T. F. Hughes, Esq.; H. McDougall, Esq.; Aug. Piehl, Esq.
Judge.—T. F. Hughes, Esq.
Starter.—R. H. Bruce, Esq.
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer:—F. B. Marshall, Esq.
Clerk of the Course:—John Graham, Esq.

FIRST DAY.—MONDAY, 6TH JANUARY.

Our annual racing festival commenced this afternoon under the most favorable auspices. The weather was lovely, the attendance of spectators both in the Grand Stand and outside was quite up to the average—including a good sprinkling of the fair sex—, the race-course was in very good order, and the racing proved in every way first class. During the day a number of the high Chinese officials visited the Stand and were received with the usual courtesies by the Stewards. The first race on the card was the Consular Cup, for which five competitors came to the starting post, and as half a mile was thought scarcely far enough for old Blue Ruin—last year's winner of this event, by the way—Forerunner was a decided favorite. As it proved, the "talent" were quite right in their opinion, as the chesnut, in Mr. Boyd's hands, after a few strides took the lead from Blue Ruin and, keeping in front all the way, landed easily by two lengths, with Magpie—a black pony that ran unsuccessfully in Hongkong in Mr. Buxey's colours two years ago—an indifferent third. The time was rather slow—64½ seconds. Chanticleer was most fancied amongst five competitors for the Trial Stakes, and Mr. Hutchings had no difficulty in scoring a very easy victory from Mainbrace, the latter finishing just in front of Cobweb. Another field of five sported silk in the Chaasze Cup, and a popular victory was recorded for Mr. Bruce's well-known "black and yellow" jacket, Mr. Marshall, who has greatly improved in his riding, taking Cheng Li Ma to the front as soon as the flag fell, and winning in a canter from Fantan and Gamecock. Five competitors were still the order of the day when the numbers went up for the Haekwan Cup, and it was not very easy to pick out a decided favorite, although Silvery Dawn had probably most admirers. Lohengrin broke down after going half a mile, leaving Chanticleer in front, and it looked any odds on the winner of the Trial Stakes until fifty yards from the winning post, where he was well ahead, but then Cobweb came with a rush and, finishing with extraordinary gameness, got up on the post and secured the verdict by a short head. For the fifth time in succession the magic number of five represented the runners, the event being the Foochow Cup, and after Cheng Li Ma's previous success he was considered a "moral." So it proved, as the Foochow pony kept in front from start to finish, and won in a canter by two lengths. The Racing Stakes proved a match between Forerunner and Blue Ruin, the former having the call in the betting; but it was all the other way in the race, as the grey came right away after passing the half-mile post and won pulling double. The time for this race (3 min. 27 secs.), considering the winner was not pressed at the last, must be considered pretty good for the Amoy course. Four ponies came to the post for the Coast Cup, a fine finish between Cocktail and Mainbrace resulting in favor of the first-named by a short head. The starting and other arrangements were perfect, and not a single hitch occurred to mar a day's capital sport. Brief details of the racing are appended:—

CONSULAR CUP, presented, value $..., for all China Ponies, weights as per scale, entrance $5. Half a mile.

Mr. Hope's ch. Forerunner, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Boyd 1
Mr. Bruce's gr. Blue Ruin, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Marshall 2
Mr. Uncle's bl. Magpie, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 3
Mr. Dryasdust's gr. Sunrise, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Firth 0
Mr. John Gilpin's gr. St. Ronan, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Wilson 0

Blue Ruin led for a short distance but was soon collared by Forerunner, and the latter, showing better speed, was never afterwards approached and won easily from last year's winner by two lengths, the same distance separating second and third. Time 64½ sec.

TRIAL STAKES, of $10 each with $50 added, a forced entry for Amoy Subscription Griffins of this season, weights as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Uncle's gr. Chanticleer, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 1
Mr. John Gilpin's, bay Mainbrace, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Wilson 2
Mr. Dryasdust's gr. Cobweb, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Marshall 3
Mr. Goonhang's gr. Speculator, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Firth 0
Mr. Hope's dun Slug, 10st. 9lb. Mr. Mr. Boyd 0

Chanticleer was favorite, and he never left the result in doubt, leading Mainbrace all the way and winning easily; Cobweb was a good third. Time 1min. 41sec.

CHAASZE CUP, presented, value $..., for Amoy and Foochow Subscription Griffins of this and last season, weights as per scale, entrance $5. One mile.

Mr. Bruce's br. Cheng Li Ma, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Dryasdust's ch. Fantan, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 2
Mr. Uncle's gr. Gamecock, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 3
Mr. John Gilpin's gr. Mainstay, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Wilson 0
Mr. Jehu's gr. Entre Nous, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Boyd 0

Cheng Li Ma, who was favorite, ran away from his field and scored a ridiculously easy victory. Time 2.18.

HAIKWAN CUP, presented, value Hk. Tls. 100, for all Ponies first raced as Griffins at Amoy, weights as per scale, entrance $5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Dryasdust's gr. Cobweb, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 1
Mr. Uncle's gr. Chanticleer, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 2
Mr. Hope's wh. Silvery Dawn, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Boyd 3
Mr. John Gilpin's gr. St. Ronan, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Wilson 0
Mr. August's gr. Lohengrin, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Marshall 0

Lohengrin made running for half a mile, when he broke down and was at once pulled up. Chanticleer then took the lead and kept it until a few strides from home, where Cobweb dashed up and snatched the race out of the fire, winning by a short head in the last stride. Time 2.54.

FOOCHOW CUP, presented, value $100, for all China Ponies, weights as per scale, entrance $5. One mile and three quarters.

Mr. Bruce's br. Cheng Li Ma, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Uncle's blk Magpie, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 2
Mr. Dryasdust's ch. Fantan, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 3
Mr. Hope's br. Bedouin, 10st. 9lb. ... Mr. Boyd 0
Mr. John Gilpin's, gr. Mainstay, 11st. 9lb. ... Mr. Wilson 0

Another easy for victory Cheng Li Ma, Mr. Bruce's pony making the whole of the running and winning by two lengths from Magpie, with Fantan a good third. Time 4.11½.

RACING STAKES, of $10 each, for all China Ponies, Foochow and Amoy Subscription Griffins of this and last season allowed 5 lbs., weights as per scale. One mile and a half.

Mr. Bruce's gr. Blue Ruin, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Hope's ch. Forerunner, 11st. 4lb. Mr. Boyd 2

Forerunner favorite. The chesnut jumped off in front and held a clear lead until three furlongs from home, where he was beaten, and Blue Ruin came right away and cantered in lengths ahead. Time 3min. 27sec.

COAST CUP, presented value $..., for Amoy Subscription Griffins of this season, weights as per scale, winner of Trial Stakes or of Chaasze Cup 7 lbs. extra, to be ridden by residents of Amoy, Foochow and Formosa, entrance $5, One mile.

The Count's sk. Cocktail, 10st. 12lb. Mr. Firth 1
Mr. John Gilpin's, bay Mainbrace, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Wilson 2
Mr. Hope's dun. Slug, 10st 9lb. ... Mr. Boyd 3
Mr. Bruce's ro. Blue Jacket, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Marshall 0

Blue Jacket showed the way for half a mile and then dropped out of the race, leaving Cocktail and Mainbrace to race home locked together, a slashing finish ending in the skewbald's favor by the shortest of heads. Slug was a poor third. Time 2.20½.

SECOND DAY.—TUESDAY, 7TH JANUARY.

Beautiful weather again favored proceedings, and the racing was excellent throughout. Blue Ruin proved himself a good pony in the Amoy Stakes, beating Forerunner in a hand canter in 2.49—not a bad performance over such a circumscribed course. The victory of Rustic in the Challenge Cup was a bit of a surprise, as it was thought Mr. Hope's pony held the issue safe; however, it was a capital finish, and Mr. Firth rode the winner very well. Fantan improved on his yesterday's form and beat Cobweb after a very exciting tussle in the Visitors' Cup, and a popular victory was scored for Formosa when Cocktail landed the Exchange Plate by a short head from Cheng Li Ma, the latter having already won the Maa-Chin Cup. Chanticleer was made favorite for the Forester Cup, but was never in the hunt, Entre Nous winning hands down by five lengths. Details:—

COMPRADORES' CUP, presented, value $...... for Amoy Subscription Griffins of this season, weights as per scale, winner of Trial Stakes, Chaasze Cup or Coast Cup 7lbs., if of two or more, 10lbs. extra, previous non-starters 7lbs. extra, entrance $5. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. John Gilpin's bay Mainbrace, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 1
Mr. Jehu's gr. Entre Nous, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Boyd 2
Mr. August's ch. Figaro, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Marshall 3

Any odds on Mainbrace, who led from start to finish and cantered in first, a length in front of Entre Nous; a bad third. Time 1.40.

CHALLENGE CUP, value $, for all Amoy and Formosa-owned Ponies, to be won two consecutive meetings by a Pony or Ponies the *bond fide* property of the same owner or owners, half entrance fees to the winner at each meeting, half added to the value of the Cup until finally won, or until the total value of the Cup reaches $500, after which to the fund, weights as per scale, entrance $10. One mile.

Mr. Uncle's br. Rustic, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 1
Mr. Hope's wh. Silvery Dawn, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Boyd 2
Mr. Dryasdust's ch. Fantan, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Wilson 3

Rustic and Silvery Dawn ran abreast for half the distance, when the latter drew clear, but nearing the straight the lot closed and a splendid race home ensued, Rustic staying the best and winning by a short half-length from the white, with Fantan only beaten a length from the second. Time 2.18½.

THE MAA-CHIN CUP, presented, value $......, for Amoy and Foochow Subscription Griffins of this and last season, winners at this, or at Foochow meeting, December 1889, of one race 5lbs. extra, of two or more 10lbs. extra, weights as per scale, entrance $5. One mile and a half.

Mr. Bruce's br. Cheng Li Ma, 11st. 11lb. (incl. 10lb. ex.) ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. John Gilpin's, gr. Mainstay, 11st. 6lb. (incl. 5lb. ex.) ... Mr. Wilson 2
Mr. Hope's br. Bedouin, 10st. 9lb. ... Mr. Boyd 3
Mr. Uncle's gr. Gamecock, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 0
Mr. Dryasdust's gr. Sunrise, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Firth 0

Gamecock and Cheng Li Ma kept close together for the first mile, with Bedouin in close attendance, then "Cheng" shot ahead and although hustled home desperately by Mainstay, won very cleverly at the finish by two lengths; Bedouin was a good third, the others beaten off. Time 3 min. 37½ sec.

VISITORS' CUP, presented, value $..., for all China Ponies, weights as per scale, winners of a race at this meeting of 1½ miles or over, 7lbs. extra, if of two or more such races, 10lbs. extra, entrance $5. Two miles.

Mr. Dryasdust's ch. Fantan, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Dryasdust's gr. Cobweb, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 2
Mr. Uncle's blk. Magpie, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Hutchings 3
Mr. Hope's br. Bedouin, 10st. 9lb. ... Mr. Boyd 0

Magpie cut out the work, next the rails, for a mile and three quarters, closely pursued by Fantan and Cobweb; from this point the black was dead beaten and Fantan came away by himself, and appeared to be winning in a canter until his stable companion shot alongside full of running and only just failed to get home first by a short head. Time 4.47.

EXCHANGE PLATE, presented, value $..., for Amoy and Foochow Subscription Griffins of this and last season, weights as per scale, winners of one race at this meeting 7lbs. extra, of two or more 10lbs. extra, entrance $5, Three quarters of a mile.

The Count's sk. Cocktail, 11st. 5lb. (incl. 7lb. ex.) Mr. Firth 1
Mr. Bruce's br. Cheng Li Ma, 11st. 11lb. (incl. 10lb. ex.) Mr. Marshall 2
Mr. John Gilpin's, gr. Mainstay, 11st. 6lb. (incl. 5lb. ex.) Mr. Wilson 3

Cheng Li Ma got best away, but was quickly joined by Cocktail and the pair raced neck and neck throughout. Entering the straight it looked odds on Cheng, but the weight told in the last fifty yards and Cocktail won an exciting race by a short head; Mainstay was an indifferent third. Time 1.41½.

FORESTER CUP, presented, half entries added, for Amoy Subscription Griffins of this season, previous winners 7lbs. extra, weights as per scale, to be ridden by residents of Amoy, Foochow or Formosa, riders who have never had a winning mount to be allowed 5lbs., entrance $5. Seven Furlongs.

Mr. Jehu's gr. Entre Nous, 10st, 12lb. ... Mr. Boyd 1
Mr. John Gilpin's bay Mainbrace, 11st. 11lb. (incl. 6lb. ex.) Mr. Wilson 2
Mr. Uncle's gr. Chanticleer, 11st. 11lb. (incl. 7lb. ex.) Mr. Firth 3

Chanticleer was a hot favorite. Entre Nous waited on the other pair until passing the wall, and then came away away by himself and won easily by five lengths; a grand finish for second place ended in favor of Mainbrace by a neck. Time 1.59.

AMOY STAKES, of $10 each, a forced entry for all Ponies entered at this meeting, first pony to receive 70 per cent, second pony 20 per cent., third pony 10 per cent., weights as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Bruce's gr. Blue Ruin, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Hope's ch. Forerunner, 11st. 4lb. Mr. Boyd 2
Mr. Uncle's br. Rustic, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 3

Forerunner led for the first half mile when he was joined by Blue Ruin, and this pair raced away together, Rustic being outpaced from the start. At the wall Forerunner hung out signals of distress, leaving the old grey to come along by himself and score an easy three lengths victory; same distance between second and third. Time 2.49.

THIRD DAY.—WEDNESDAY, 8TH JANUARY.

The meeting was concluded to-day most satisfactorily. We had fine weather, a pleasant company, and really good sport. Blue Ruin won both the Formosa Cup and Champions almost without an effort, and he ought to win some races at Hongkong, as he is a game pony that stays well. The Ladies Purse ended in a dead-heat between Silvery Dawn and Gamecock, and the owners agreed to divide. Miss Ive presented the purse with a few graceful words, which were suitably acknowledged by both the successful jockeys. Cobweb landed both the Leger and Lottery Cups, and is a very game, staying pony, if perhaps not quite first class. Mainstay won the Consolation after a close race with Magpie, and the Nil Desperandum proved a very easy task for Slug. Mr. Marshall was the most successful rider at the meeting, winning no fewer than ten races. The whole of the arrangements left nothing to be desired, and much credit is due to the Stewards. Details of the day's racing are as follows:—

FORMOSA CUP, presented, value $......; for all China Ponies; weights as per scale; winners of any Race at this meeting 7lbs. extra, of two or more races 10 lbs. extra; entrance $5. One Mile.

Mr. Bruce's gr. Blue Ruin, 12st. (incl. 10lb. ex.) ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Dryasdust's ch. Fantan, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 2
Mr. Hope's ch. Forerunner, 11st. 11lb. (incl. 7lb. ex.) ... Mr. Boyd 3

Forerunner, in the belief that the distance would suit him, was made favorite, but Blue Ruin had nevertheless many supporters. As soon as the flag fell Blue Ruin, next the rails, rushed off at score, and Mr. Marshall, making every post a winning post, had both his opponents well beaten a quarter of a mile from home, winning in a common canter. Fantan was second and the favorite last. Time 2.15½.

LEDGER CUP, presented, value $; for Amoy and Foochow Subscription Griffins of this and last season; winners of one race at this, or at Foochow meeting, December 1889, of 1½ miles or over 5lbs. extra, of two or more such races 10lbs. extra; entrance $5. Two Miles.

Mr. Dryasdust's gr. Cobweb, 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Firth 1
Mr. Bruce's br. Cheng Li Ma, 11st. 11lb. (incl. 10lb. ex.) ... Mr. Marshall 2
Mr. August's ch. Figaro, 11st. 1lb. Mr. Wilson 3
Mr. Hope's br. Bedouin, 10st. 9lb. ... Mr. Boyd 0

Cheng, who was made favorite, cut out the running with Cobweb in close attendance, the other two in the rear, and these positions were unchanged until a quarter of a mile from home, where Cobweb challenged the leader and the pair ran home locked together, the judges' fiat being in favor of the grey by a short head; Figaro was a very bad third. Time 4.45.

LADIES' PURSE, presented, for all China Ponies; to be ridden by residents of Amoy, Foochow or Formosa; weights as per scale; Jockeys who have never had a winning mount before this meeting allowed 5lbs.; entrance $5; Once round and a distance.

Mr. Hope's wh. Silvery Dawn, 10st. 12lb. ... Mr. Boyd †
Mr. Uncle's gr. Gamecock, 10st. 12lb. Mr. Firth †
Mr. Uncle's br. Rustic, 11st. 1lb. Mr. Marshall 3

Silvery Dawn and Gamecock raced together throughout and finished a dead-heat, with Rustic beaten only half a length. Silvery Dawn pulled up lame. Time 1.22.

LOTTERY CUP, value $......, for Amoy Subscription Griffins of this season, weights as per scale, winners at this meeting 5lbs. extra for each race won, entrance $5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Dryasdust's gr. Cobweb, 11st. 11lb. (incl. 10lb. ex.) ... Mr. Marshall 1
The Count's sk. Cocktail, 11st. 3lb. (incl. 5lb. ex.) ... Mr. Firth 2
Mr. John Gilpin's, bay Mainbrace, 11st. 9lb. (incl. 5lb. ex.) ... Mr. Wilson 3
Mr. Uncle's gr. Chanticleer, 11st. 9lb. (incl. 5lb. ex.) ... Mr. Hutchings 0
Mr. Jehu's gr. Entre Nous, 11st. 3lb. (incl. 5lb. ex.) ... Mr. Boyd 0

Cocktail threw his rider, but was quickly remounted, and to a good start cut out the work in front of Chanticleer and Entre Nous, Cobweb lying off. Last time round Chanticleer fell, Mr. Hutchings being severely shaken. Nearing the wall Cobweb was sent to the front and maintained his advantage to the end, winning by several lengths from Cocktail, with Mainbrace a bad third. Time 2.53½.

CONSOLATION CUP, value $100, Second Pony $50, for all beaten Ponies that have run and not won a race at this meeting, weights as per scale, entrance $5. One mile.

Mr. John Gilpin's, gr. Mainstay 11st. 1lb. ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Uncle's bl. Magpie, 10st. 12lb. Mr. Firth 2

Magpie, on the rails, held a clear lead for six furlongs, where his opponent drew alongside and at once had the race in hand, going on by himself and winning easily. Time 2.22 4-5th.

CHAMPION STAKES, a forced entry of $10 each for all winners at this meeting except Nil Desperandum Stakes, winners of two races $15 extra, of more than two races $30 extra, optional entry for non-winners $5, weights as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Bruce's gr. Blue Ruin, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Marshall 1
Mr. Hope's ch. Forerunner, 11st. 4lb. Mr. Boyd 2
Mr. John Gilpin's bay Mainbrace, 11st. 4lb. ... Mr. Wilson 3

Blue Ruin was a warm favorite. Forerunner made the running with the favorite, pulling hard, lying second until a quarter of a mile from home, where Mr. Marshall roused up the old grey, who at once took the lead and going clear away won easily by three lengths; Mainbrace was beaten off. Time 2.49 2-5.

NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES, of $5 each with $50 added, Second Pony $25, for all beaten Amoy Subscription Griffins of this season that

have run and not won a race at this meeting, weights as per scale. Once round and a distance.

Mr. Hope's dun Slug 10st. 9lb.........Mr. Boyd 1
Mr. Bruce's ro. Blue Jacket, 10st. 12lb.......... Mr. Marshall 2
Mr. Goonhang's gr. Speculator, 10st. 12lb...... Mr. Wilson 3

Slug jumped off with the lead, made all the running and won in a canter by two lengths. Time 1. 21½.

CRICKET.

THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS v. HONGKONG.

This interesting trial of strength at England's manly pastime between the respective representatives of the Straits Settlements and Hongkong was commenced on the Cricket Ground a few minutes past 11 o'clock yesterday forenoon (22nd inst.), in the presence of a large number of spectators, which gradually became larger as the game progressed. At the last moment it was decided to play twelve aside, a rule which, in our opinion, is more honored in the breach than the observance. Winning the toss, the Hongkong captain elected to take first innings, and on a very fair wicket, considering the heavy rains we have been favored with lately, Blair and Coxon assumed the defensive, the Straits' attack being entrusted to Ross, fast overhand with a very taking delivery, and an old Hongkong cricketer, Lieut. E. O. Smith, of the gallant old "Steelbacks," whose medium pace over-handers, breaking in from leg, are well known in the colony.

Hongkong commenced well, Blair scoring a pair of 2's in the fast bowler's first over, a nice stroke to short leg, and a pretty drive to long leg, which was smartly fielded. Coxon opened his shoulders to Smith's first ball and drove him to about square leg for 5, following up this with a pretty draw for a single, and then Blair cut the last ball of the over—a somewhat expensive one—for a couple. In Ross' second over Coxon gave a very hard chance to Fox in the slips, which was not accepted. In Smith's second over Coxon sent him to leg for 4, and in the following over hit one hard to mid on for 3, following this up by cutting Ross beautifully to the boundary for 3. Runs were coming too quickly to be pleasant, so a change of bowling was tried, Fox relieving Smith, and Coxon nicely placed his first ball in the slips for a single. A pretty cut into the Pavilion by Blair off Ross was the next interesting feature, but the bowler had his revenge, as with the following ball he broke down Coxon's defence, the first wicket falling with the total at 29, of which the retiring batsman had contributed 19 in his usual dashing style. Coxon's score was made up of one 5, one 4, one 3, one 2 and singles. E. W. Maitland took the vacant wicket, but his stay was a short one, as after scoring two he was caught at long-off by Gahagan off Fox. Two wickets for 32 runs. Leach now partnered Blair and a long stand was made. The play was rather slow until the R. E. "crack" hit Fox to the fence, but in the next over from Ross he had a life, as he placed the ball in Birch's hands at point; however, the chance was not accepted and an expensive let-off it proved for the Straits' team. A sharp run here by Blair brought out applause, which was renewed by some smart work on the part of the wicket-keeper. Runs now came faster and both men appearing set, Birch (medium pace over-hand) was deputed to relieve Ross. Leach showed his appreciation of this change by cutting the new bowler's first delivery into the refreshment tent, and Blair immediately afterwards drove him to mid-on for a couple. The last named was cheered in the next over for a slashing cut off Fox, which, however, only produced a couple of runs, owing to colliding with one of the posts, but the following ball he hit hard to the leg boundary. With 50 up Smith resumed at his old end, and Latchford bowled in place of Birch. These changes proved rather expensive, half a dozen runs resulting from the latter's first over—Blair driving him hard for a couple and cutting him into the refreshment tent. A very smart piece of fielding by Ross, which saved a boundary hit, was recognised by hearty applause. Leach was then missed at long off by Ross—an easy chance—, and acknowledged the favor by smacking Smith to the boundary. In Latchford's next over Leach drove him straight to the Praya for 6, which would have been 8 had the striker not broken down in one of his legs, which necessitated a bandage and a substitute to run for him. With 70 on the telegraph board Spinks took the ball from Smith, but Blair at once hit him hard to leg and Leach drove him to the long field for a couple. Latchford failing to effect the desired separation, gave place to Ross. Blair scored two to leg off the new bowler's third ball and then hit him hard to mid-on for another brace—which would at least have been four had the ball not rebounded back into the ground after striking a post. Leach cut Spinks to the road for two and scored a single to leg, and then Blair cut him to the road for three, which brought on Fox. Leach cut the last ball of the latter's first over for a single, and then Ross bowled a "maiden." Blair snicked a single off Fox, and Leach hit the last ball of the over hard to mid-on, but it was smartly fielded and only a single resulted. Ross bowled another "maiden" and Fox followed suit, Blair playing forward to every ball of the over. At this time the bowling was dead on the wicket and run-getting no easy task. Leach broke the monotony by getting Ross to leg for a single, and cut Fox to the road for two, Blair "chipping in" by snicking Ross for three, this last venture very nearly resulting in a case of run out. A new ball was now called for, and the first ball bowled by Ross, a regular trimmer, Leach failed to stop, and retired for a really first class innings of 31, which included one 6, two 3's, and three 2's. Three for 96, the last wicket having put on 64 runs. An adjournment was now made for tiffin, Blair being not out with 42 to his credit.

On resuming at two o'clock, Campbell became Blair's associate, and placed the last ball of Ross' over to leg, following this up by snicking Fox for 3, Blair driving the following ball into the harbour. Campbell spoiled a "maiden" for Ross by placing the last ball of the over to short leg for a single, and immediately afterwards snicked Fox to the road for 3. A hit to mid-on for a couple by Blair off the fast bowler was the next noteworthy item, and then play ruled slow for a time, until the R.E. man drove Ross straight to the boundary, supplementing this with a hard cut off Fox to the road for three, but the following ball, breaking in from leg, clean bowled Campbell, with the total at 124 for 4 wickets—last man 9. Lowson then went in and "spooned" the first ball he received from Fox to long off, for which a desperately short run was safely negotiated, and he then drove the fast bowler to the trees at the City Hall, but narrowly escaped being caught in the slips in Fox's next over. Blair snicked Fox for 3, and hit Ross beautifully to leg, for which only a single was scored, but Lowson drove the next ball out of the ground for 4. The same batsman then hit Fox into the refreshment tent, and this brought on Smith for the third time, but the Doctor sent him to long-off for two and to the barrack fence for three in his first over, the last hit being a "chance," which, however, was not availed of. Birch (fast round) now took the leather from Ross, his first over producing a single to Lowson and a couple of byes, and Gahagan relieved Smith at the other end, but Lowson drove the last ball of his first over to the fence, and sent the next ball he received from Birch to the road for three. It was now Blair's turn, and he hit the same bowler to leg for 2, and played the remaining balls of the over. No change being effected Hornby superseded Gahagan and started with a maiden, but Lowson made four, and Blair a couple off his second essay. Runs now came so rapidly that another bowling change had to be tried, Ross going on at his original end. Blair sent his second ball to leg for three, but in Hornby's next over the R. E. batsman was cleaned bowled, having scored 73—one 4, ten 3's, eleven 2's, etc.,—in irreproachable style, with the exception of the one chance already mentioned. Five for 181. Major Miles joined Lowson and after a couple of singles by the former, the Doctor drove Ross into the Parade Ground for four. The run-getting now slackened a bit, but when Hornby gave up the ball to Fox, play became livelier, Lowson hitting vigorously while the Major played correct cricket. A splendid leg hit by the veteran off Ross, which pitched into the Murray Barracks' compound, was loudly applauded, and a sharp cut for a couple in the same over, which brought up the 200, elicited fresh cheers. Latchford had another try with the ball in place of Ross, but Lowson, after getting a hard crack on the hand, drove the last ball of his first over for two, and smacked the first ball of his second over to the fence. Miles now had a life off Fox, sending the ball straight into Latchford's hands at square leg, and then each batsman sent this bowler to the fence. A separation was, however, effected in Fox's next over, Lowson sending one up to long-off, which Spinks easily secured. Six for 220. Lowson's hard hit 59 included two 4's, ten 3's and five 2's. F. Maitland joined the Major, when the latter at once drove Fox clean over into the Praya, but only three runs were allowed for some reason which we cannot understand. Ross again took the ball from Latchford, but the separation came from the other side, Fox taking the Major's wicket, the veteran having played an admirable innings for 23—one 4, four 3's, one 2, and singles. Seven for 228. Bell-Irving was next man, but he failed to stop the first ball from Fox, and Sercombe Smith went in. The new comer cut the first ball he received for a couple, and in the following over drove Ross for two to mid-on and three to leg, both capital hits, and then sent Fox to the fence. A clinking ball from the last named proved too much for Maitland, who had only contributed a single. Nine for 214. G. S. Coxon joined Smith and Latchford once more took the ball from Ross, but after a couple of overs resigned to Hornby, who was pretty roughly handled by both batsmen. Coxon and Smith each scored a snick for three in one over from Fox, and the latter drove him hard to the on but only scored a single, the ball being very smartly picked up and returned. This brought on Ross at the eastern end. A splendid piece of fielding at this stage by Higginbotham at cover-point was cheered all round the ground. Smith drove Hornby to the on for two, but the next ball proved fatal, as he was well caught at the wicket by Talbot. Ten for 273, of which Sercombe Smith had contributed 30 in dashing style—four 3's, four 2's and singles. Ram was last man and he cut the first ball he received from Hornby into the refreshment tent, and scored a two and a single in Ross' next over. Another change of bowling was tried, Birch relieving Hornby, and he sent down a good maiden over. In Ross' next over Coxon, who had made 12, was capitally caught at cover point by Higginbotham, who had to run a considerable distance to reach the ball, and the innings was over for 280, Ram carrying out his bat for 6.

Fox carried off the bowling honours amongst the Straits cricketers, taking 6 wickets for 83 runs. Ross had 3 for 69, but it must be admitted that he had execrable luck, a number of chances off his bowling having been missed. Hornby, whose peculiar delivery reminds one of the well known professionals Lillywhite and Crossland, took two wickets at a cost of 32 runs. Smith was decidedly out of form and bowled without any success, and the same may be said of Latchford, Spinks, Birch and Gahagan. The fielding of the Straits team was, to say the least, disappointing. Talbot was excellent at the wickets and did yeoman's service; Birch and Hornby at point were also smart, and one or two others distinguished themselves occasionally, but as a whole the fielding was far below first-class form.

SECOND DAY.

This match was resumed this forenoon (23rd inst.), play commencing at 10.50. Owing to the heavy rain which fell throughout the night the ground was at first in parts sodden and slippery, and played the reverse of lively; but the sun came out in full splendour during the afternoon, and the visitors had the benefit of a fairly fast wicket. The Straits were first represented by Higginbotham and Latchford, E. J. Coxon and Lowson trundling for Hongkong. Coxon bowled a maiden to Higginbotham and then Lowson's first ball clean bowled Latchford. One for 0. Hornby was next man, and he scored a single to leg off the first ball he received. Higginbotham scored a single by a hard drive to long off, and from the next ball Hornby was splendidly caught by E. J. Coxon in the slips. Two wickets for 2 runs. Birch was next comer. Higginbotham sent the first ball of Coxon's second over to the fence, and Birch drove the last ball to exactly the same place. Lowson bowled a maiden, and in Coxon's next over Higginbotham hit the last ball to the fence, but then had a life from Lowson, the ball going direct into Ram's hands at long off. Birch then hit Lowson to leg for 3, and Higginbotham drove the same bowler straight for a single. Higginbotham next drove Lowson to the off for 3, and hit Coxon straight for a single. Lowson then sent down another maiden to Higginbotham, who was easily let off at slip by Campbell in Coxon's next over. Nothing noteworthy occurred until Birch hit a full pitch from Lowson to square leg for 3, but he lost his partner in the following over from Coxon, well caught by E. W. Maitland at short mid-on. Three for 33. Higginbotham had made 16, but as he was twice let off, it was a lucky innings. Talbot followed, but retired, without troubling the scorers, the second ball he received from Coxon shattering his wickets. Dr. Fox joined Birch (with Higginbotham to run for him) but only scored a single when he was smartly stumped by G. S. Coxon off the left-hander. Five for 34. Moss was next in, and Birch hit Lowson to square leg for 2, and snicked him for a single, Moss also "breaking his duck" off the same bowler. Moss drove Coxon to long on for a brace, but the first ball of Lowson's next over clean bowled him. Six for 41, last man 4. Corporal Spinks was Birch's next partner, and drove the first ball he received along the ground to the fence, but Birch was immediately afterwards caught by E. J. Coxon off Lowson in the slips. Seven for 44. Birch had piled up 18 in good style. Boileau was next man, and Spinks drove a full pitch from Coxon to the road for a couple, and scored 3 for a hard drive to long on the same over, but Boileau was caught at slip by Sercombe Smith the following ball. Eight for 49. Gahagan followed, but without any further addition to the score, Spinks succumbed to a judiciously pitched "yorker" from the redoubtable Doctor. E. O. Smith was next man, but after making a single he was magnificently caught by Leach, one hand, at point, off Lowson. Ten for 50. Ross was last man, and Gahagan gave a difficult chance to Ram off Coxon, which was declined. Ross then got the Doctor to leg for 2, but in the following over Gahagan was clean bowled by Coxon, and the innings was over for 54 runs. Lowson and Coxon, who bowled unchanged throughout, fairly divided the honours, as the following analysis clearly shows:—

	Balls.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lowson	60	2	28	6
Coxon	62	3	25	5

The fielding of the Hongkong players was excellent all round, even although two or three apparently easy chances were missed. F. Maitland was particularly smart at long-leg and long-off. E. J. Coxon never missed a chance, and "G. S." was quite in his best form at the wickets.

In a minority of 226 the Straits team had, of course, to follow on, and Hornby sent in Birch and Higginbotham to again face the deliveries of Lowson and E. J. Coxon. The third ball sent down by the latter was snicked by Birch to the boundary, and Higginbotham scored a single off the following ball; but Singapore's luck was "dead out," as Lowson's first delivery, a regular trimmer, proved too much for the Northamptonshire batsman, and one good wicket was gone for only 4 runs. Hornby was next to come—and go, as after driving Lowson to the fence, a misunderstanding with his partner over an overthrow led to his wicket being smartly thrown down by Bell-Irving. Fox took the vacant wicket and started well by nicely placing Lowson to leg for a couple; and in the next over Birch put Coxon away prettily to leg for 3, but from the next ball Fox had a life, as he drove it straight to Campbell at square leg, and it was only the strong sun which prevented that usually reliable "field" from making a safe catch. Fox then hit Lowson loftily to long-on, where Bell-Irving just failed to reach the ball, and two runs resulted. Coxon bowled a maiden to Birch, and after a couple of singles off Lowson, Fox fell to a regular beauty from the left-hander. Three for 24, last man 9. The usual adjournment for tiffin then took place.

On resuming, Birch was accompanied to the wickets by Talbot, and the former had a life from Lowson's second ball, the sun in E. J. Coxon's eyes at slips preventing him from effecting what under ordinary circumstances would have been to him an easy catch. Talbot slogged Coxon to long-off for three, and then hit Lowson to square leg for a couple, Birch shortly afterwards grandly driving the same bowler to the fence. Talbot next hit Lowson to the off for 2 and to square leg for the same number, of which latter contribution one run was declared "short." Birch had a narrow escape at this stage by hitting a ball from Coxon hard into Leach's hands at point, but the chance, a most difficult one, was not accepted. The first change of bowling was now made, E. W. Maitland relieving Lowson. Talbot hit Coxon hard to mid-on which Campbell had a good try for, but failed to reach the ball and a couple were registered, but the left-hander quickly had his revenge, the following ball spoiling the symmetry of the Singaporean's stumps. Four for 45, last man 14. Moss was next in, but Maitland bowled him for a "duck." Five for 46. Latchford succeeded and hit Coxon to the Pavilion for 3, and in the same bowler's following over Birch sent him to the leg boundary. Latchford drove Maitland to mid-on for 2 and the next ball he snicked to the canvas for 3. After a fluky hit to long-off off Coxon, the "Steelback" cracked Maitland to mid-on for a couple, and then hit him hard to long-off, which was splendidly fielded by Blair; but the next delivery from Coxon proved fatal, Latchford sending it to Miles at mid-off, where it was safely held. Six for 63, last man 12. Spinks, who was next in, started by driving Coxon to the off for a single, and the following ball Birch sent over the fence for a quartette, amidst loud cheers from the Pavilion. A grand hit to mid-on by Spinks off Maitland elicited general applause, but the following ball, sent in the same direction, was safely held by Blair. Seven for 72. Boileau now joined Birch, but the latter's time had at last come, and a splendid drive to deep square leg was grandly caught by Campbell, very low down, a performance that brought forth loud cheers. Eight for 72, last man 23. Ross followed, but with one run added Boileau was magnificently caught by E. J. Coxon off his own bowling, a splendid running catch, and the cheering was renewed. Smith now came in and carefully played a good over from Maitland, Fox doing the same with Coxon's next essay, and then Smith drove one to Miles at mid-off, which was carefully taken care of. Ten for 72, last man 0. Gahagan brought up the rear, and Ross, after playing much too soon at several of Coxon's deliveries, got one away to leg which reached the boundary. Gahagan sent Maitland to long off for a single, and his partner cut the same bowler hard, but the ball was sharply fielded by Smith and only one was scored; in the next over, however, Maitland had his revenge by bowling Ross for 4, the innings closing for 79, Hongkong thus winning the match by an innings and 147 runs. Coxon took five wickets for 41, Lowson one for 17, and E. W. Maitland 4 for 14. The fielding of the Hongkong players was again first class, as, although one or two chances were missed, they were always dead on the ball, and made but few mistakes. There can be no doubt whatever that at every point of the game the Straits' cricketers were greatly over-matched. Full scores are appended:—

HONGKONG.

FIRST INNINGS.

Lieut. R.M. Blair, R.E., b Hornby	73
E. J. Coxon (Capt.), b Ross	19
E. W. Maitland, c Gahagan, b Fox	2
A. J. Leach, b Ross	31
Lieut. A. J. Campbell, 91st Regt., b Fox	9
Dr. Lowson, c Spinks, b Fox	59
Major Miles, R.A., b Fox	23
F. Maitland, b Fox	1
J. J. Bell-Irving, b Fox	0
T. Sercombe Smith, c Talbot, b Hornby	30
G. S. Coxon, c Higginbotham, b Ross	12
E. A. Ram, not out	6
Extras	15
Total	280

THE STRAITS.

	First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Lieut. C. Higginbotham, 58th Regt., c E. W. Maitland, b Coxon		16	b Lowson	1
Private Latchford, 58th Regt., b Lowson		0	c Miles, b Coxon	11
F. V. Hornby, (Capt.) c E. J. Coxon, b Lowson		1	Run out	4
E. W. Birch, c E. J. Coxon, b Lowson		18	c Campbell, b Coxon	23
Dr. S. G. Fox, st. G. S. Coxon, b E. J. Coxon		1	b Coxon	9
A. P. Talbot, b Coxon		0	b Coxon	14
E. W. Moss, b Lowson		4	b E. W. Maitland	0
Corpl. Spinks, 58th Regiment, b Lowson		8	c Blair, b E. W. Maitland	4
Lieut. Boileau, 58th Regt. c Smith, b Coxon		0	c and b Coxon	0
A. Y. Gahagan, b Coxon		2	not out	1
Lieut. E. O. Smith, 58th Regt., c Leach, b Lowson		1	c Miles, b E. W. Maitland	0
A. J. Ross, not out		2	b E. W. Maitland	4
Extras		1	Extras	7
Total		54	Total	79

THE RETURN MATCH.

The return match between the Straits and Hongkong was commenced on Friday forenoon in splendid cricketing weather. There were some alterations in the teams, Stewart replacing Boileau in the Straits contingent, while Capt. Davidson, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and Lieut. Hutchison, R.N., were substituted for Lieut. Blair, R.E., and J. J. Bell-Irving, who were unable to play.

Winning the toss Hornby elected to assume the defensive and went first to the wickets with Higginbotham. The innings calls for no lengthy description as with the exception of Hornby himself, who rattled up 42 in good style before being bowled by Maitland, no stand was made, the last wicket falling with the total at 87. E. W. Maitland took 5 wickets for 22 runs and E. J. Coxon 6 for 51.

Hongkong was expected to make a large score but signally failed to answer expectations, the total only reaching 123, Leach (11), Campbell (20), Ram (25) Davidson (15), and Smith (12) being the highest scorers. Ross was credited with four wickets at a cost of 32 runs; Birch had 3 for 19, Fox 3 for 30, and Hornby one for 12.

In a minority of 36 the Straits players started their second essay, but although they improved on their previous exhibitions and exceeded the "century," the Hongkong bowling was too good for tall scoring, and the innings terminated early on Saturday forenoon for 113. Talbot played well for 21, and Corporal Spinks carried out his bat for a hard-hit 18. Sercombe Smith had the best bowling average, his 4 wickets costing only 22 runs; E. W. Maitland took 4 for 33, and Coxon 3 for 48.

With only 78 to obtain to win Hongkong had an easy task, and eventually achieved a handsome victory by 8 wickets.

The following are the detailed scores:—

THE STRAITS.

	First Innings.		Second Innings.	
F. V. Hornby, b Maitland		42	b Coxon	11
Lieut. C. Higginbotham, 58th Regt., c sub. b E. J. Coxon		0	b Maitland	6
J. G. Stewart, c Davidson, b E. J. Coxon		4	b Smith	4
E. W. Birch, b E. W. Maitland		11	c sub. b Maitland	8
S. G. Fox, c and b Coxon		0	c Ram, b Maitland	11
A. P. Talbot, c Miles, b Coxon		1	c Smith b Coxon	21
Private Latchford, 58th Regt., c Ram, b Maitland		6	b Smith	4
Corporal Spinks, 58th Regt., c Davidson, b Coxon		7	not out	18
E. W. Moss, b Coxon		1	b Smith	5
A. Y. Gahagan, b Maitland		3	c Campbell, b Smith	0
Lieut. E. O. Smith, 58th Regt., c Ram, b Maitland		9	c sub. b Maitland	6
A. J. Ross, not out		1	c E. W. Maitland, b Coxon	5
Extras		1	Extras	10
Total		87	Total	113

HONGKONG.

	First Innings.		Second Innings.	
A. J. Leach, c Fox, b Ross		11	not out	9
Lieut. A. J. Campbell, 91st Regt., b Ross		20	not out	21
Major Miles, R.A., b Birch		4		
J. A. Lowson, c and b Fox		3		
E. J. Coxon, c Hornby, b Fox		6	b Birch	13
Lieutenant Hutchison, R.N., c Stewart, b Ross		5		
E. A. Ram, b Birch		25		
Captain Davidson, 91st Regt., b Birch		15	c Fox, b Birch	21
G. S. Coxon, b Hornby		2		
T. S. Smith, not out		12	b Ross	7
E. W. Maitland, b Fox		7		
F. Maitland, c Higginbotham, b Ross		0		
Extras		13	Extras	7
Total		123	Total	78

THE STRAITS v. UNITED SERVICES.

This match was commenced yesterday forenoon (27th inst.) in very dreary weather and on a most difficult wicket. The Services took first innings, but with the exception of Blair (35) and Campbell (11), no stand was made against the bowling of Dr. Fox and Birch, and the last wicket fell with the score at 72, Fox taking 5 wickets for 20, Birch 3 for 43, and Latchford one for 2. The Straits players failed even to reach this small total, the bowling of the young Naval player, Walter, completely demoralising them. Hornby piled up 21, but nobody else reached double figures, and the innings closed for 56. Walter took six wickets for 21 runs, Blair 3 for 13, and Hutchison one for 22.

With 16 runs to the good the Services started their second innings in a wretchedly bad light, and at 5 o'clock, when stumps were drawn for the night, had lost eight wickets for 67 runs, Champain (18) and Blair (13) alone offering any opposition to Fox's slows.

Play was resumed this forenoon on a greatly improved wicket, but the ground was very slow, and the ball would not travel. The Services' innings was continued by Garde and Walter, and the former increased his overnight score to 12, when a good ball from Fox sent him back to the Pavilion, and the same trundler quickly disposed of Walter, the innings closing for 81. Fox bowled with noteworthy success, taking 7 wickets for 18 runs. Birch had one for 32, Latchford one for 8, and Hornby one for 11.

With only 98 to get win, victory seemed well within reach of the Straits' players, who were first represented at the wickets by Hornby and Higginbotham. When both these batsmen were sent back without scoring, prospects looked hardly so rosy, and when Fox and Talbot failed to come off, they looked gloomy indeed. Birch played up pluckily for 14 and then succumbed to a deceptive ball from Blair, Corporal Spinks slogged up a dozen in double quick time before playing over a straight one from the same bowler, and both Stewart (16) and Private Latchford (18) displayed good cricket before being clean bowled by Lee, but nobody else did anything, and the total only reached 72, the Services winning an interesting match by 25 runs. Lee bowled with phenomenal success, taking four wickets for 0 runs; Walter had four for 36, and Blair two for 21. The fielding was only moderately good, but Garde kept wickets in most effective style. The following are the scores:—

THE STRAITS.

	First Innings.		Second Innings.	
F. V. Hornby, c and b Blair		21	c Blair, b Walter	0
Lieut. C. Higginbotham (58th), b Hutchison		4	b Walter	0
E. W. Birch, c and b Walter		4	b Blair	14
S. G. Fox, c Miles, b Walter		0	c Champain, b Walter	5
A. P. Talbot, c Eames, b Walter		1	c Champain, b Walter	3
Corpl. Spinks (58th), b Walter		0	b Blair	12
J. G. Stewart, b Walter		3	b Lee	16
Hill Smith, b Blair		0	c Hutchison, b Lee	0
Private Latchford (58th), not out		7	b Lee	18
Lieut. E. O. Smith, (58th), c Edwards, b Blair		0	b Lee	0
E. W. Moss, c and b Walter		1	not out	0
Extras		5	Extras	4
Total		56	Total	72

UNITED SERVICES.

	First Innings.		Second Innings.	
Lieut. Campbell, 91st Regt., c Stuart, b Birch		11	b Fox	8
Mr. Champain, R.N., c Stuart, b Birch		4	c H. Smith, b Hornby	18
Lieut. Blair, R.E., b Fox		35	c H. Smith, b Fox	13
Lieut. Hutchison, R.N., run out		1	b Latchford	2
Lieut. Eames, R.N., b Fox		6	c Higginbotham, b Fox	4
Major Miles, R.A., c Stuart, b Latchford		0	b Fox	1
Maj.-Gen. Bevan Edwards, b Fox		0	c Hornby, b Birch	5
Mr. Lee, R.N., b Fox		1	st. Talbot, b Fox	0
Mr. R. E. Garde, R.N., c Higginbotham, b Fox		0	b Fox	12
Mr. Walter, R.N., not out		0	b Fox	1
Lieut. Young, R.E., c Fox, b Birch		4	not out	0
Extras		10	Extras	15
Total		72	Total	81

LAWN TENNIS.

THE STRAITS v. HONGKONG.

The double match at lawn tennis, the Straits Settlements v. Hongkong, was played in the grounds at Government House this afternoon (27th inst.), when, notwithstanding the exceedingly disagreeable weather, there was a large turn-out of spectators, including many ladies. Singapore was represented by Messrs. Braddell and Owen, the latter being substituted for Mr. E. W. Birch at the eleventh hour, and the interests of Hongkong were entrusted to Messrs. E. J. Coxon and W. H. Wallace. The conditions of the match were the first three sets out of five, six games to each set.

Singapore commenced well by winning the first three games pretty easily, Coxon showing rather indifferent form to begin with; the fourth game fell to the Hongkong players the fifth to Singapore, and then the local men, playing up grandly, scored the next three off the reel, thus making "four all." It was now the turn of the Straits' players, and the score was called 5 to 4 in their favor. By some excellent play Coxon and Wallace equalised, and also scored the next two games, thus winning the first set by seven games to five.

Singapore again opened successfully in the second set, winning the opening game by some very pretty rallies, but only after "deuce" had been called twice. The following four games all fell to Hongkong, Coxon and Wallace completely outplaying their opponents, whose all-round form was far below general expectations. After a very hard struggle the visitors won the sixth game, and also succeeded in again scoring to Hongkong's 30, but after this they never had a look-in, the next two notches falling to Coxon and Wallace at game v. 15, and the second set by six games to three.

Again the Singaporeans started favorably, and playing well together credited themselves with the first three games of the next set, the first after "deuce," the second by game to 30, and the third a "love" game. This, however, was an expiring effort, as the Hongkong representatives scored six games running, and thus won the set by six games to three, and the match by three sets to love.

The Singapore players, after the first quarter of an hour, were really never in the hunt, although Braddell's service was most difficult to tackle and Owen played some pretty strokes. Wallace has rarely shown better form, whilst Coxon's overhand returns were simply unplayable.

The single match, Braddell v. Coxon, will take place to-morrow afternoon at Government House, commencing at 3 o'clock, when, even in face of the great reputation enjoyed by the former, the local "crack" ought to win pretty cleverly.

The single match at lawn tennis between the champions of the Straits Settlements and Hongkong was played on the Government House court this afternoon (28th inst.) in the presence of several hundreds of spectators, of whom the fair sex formed a large proportion. Mr. R. W. Braddell, of Oxford University renown, did battle for the southern colony, and Mr. E. J. Coxon represented Hongkong. The court was in splendid order and the weather all that could be desired. As in the double-handed match, the conditions were the best three sets out of five, and six games each set. Notwithstanding Braddell's great reputation Coxon was a decided favorite, but after the easy victory of the local players in the doubles, offers to lay six to four on the left-hander were allowed to pass unheeded.

Braddell opened the ball by scoring a "love" game, and then Coxon electrified the supporters of the Singapore "crack" by scoring the next six in succession, and without ever giving his opponent the shadow of a chance. In the second, third, fifth and seventh it was game—15, the fourth and sixth were "love" games, and the first set was credited to Hongkong by six games to one.

In the second set Coxon scored the first point to his opponent's 30 and the second after a "deuce" game, and then Braddell was warmly applauded for scoring a game to Coxon's 15. After this success the Singapore man fell all to pieces, and the left-hander, playing splendidly and rarely missing a chance, won the next four games in succession—the first to 0, the second to 15, the third to 30, and the fourth after a "deuce"—, and thus secured the second set by six to one.

At this stage the result of the match appeared a foregone conclusion, as Braddell had shown himself quite unable to cope with the deadly volleying and admirable placing of the ball which so far had characterised the Hongkong champion's play. And when Coxon scored the first three games in the third set, affairs looked gloomy indeed for Singapore. However, a game is never lost until it is won, and Braddell, doubtless encouraged by the hearty applause which greeted every noteworthy stroke he made, commenced for the first time to show his true form. He won the fourth game of the set after a "deuce," Coxon landed the sixth to the old Oxford man's 30, and then the latter, playing in brilliant style, secured the next four in succession, three of them "love" games and the other to Coxon's 15, thus making the game 5 to 4 in favor of Braddell. Coxon, after a close struggle, was again to the fore in the tenth game, and then Braddell, amidst loud cheers, won the eleventh and twelfth, thus placing a set to his credit by seven games to five.

Commencing the fourth set the Straits champion, although evidently tiring rapidly, still kept up his good form, and after a "deuce," in which Coxon was once or twice a bit unlucky, secured the first game; but now the left-hander settled down steadily, and, out-playing his opponent, won the second against 30, the third against 15 and the fourth against 30. Braddell 'came again' in the fifth game, which he won to his antagonist's 15, but Coxon landed the sixth after three "deuces"—the best contested game of the afternoon. Singapore had another look in when the seventh game fell to its champion—after Coxon had looked all over a winner—and the score stood at four to three in favor of Hongkong. Coxon very easily scored the eighth game to Braddell's 15, and keeping up high pressure scored game to 30 in the ninth essay, winning the set by six to three, and the match by three sets to one.

There cannot be the least doubt that the best man won, and although Braddell did not at the beginning play up to his best form, the games scored by each player—23 against 12—fairly represent their respective merits. Braddell's service is exceedingly good, and some of his strokes this afternoon were worthy of all praise, but whenever it came to a long rally he was almost invariably out-manœuvred, and he does not "stay" nearly so well as the Hongkong "crack." We have seen Coxon "serve" better than he did to-day, but, taken all round, he played a winning game, and rarely missed a chance. With direct reference to the result of the match, it should not be lost sight of that the local player was certainly not assisted by anything in the shape of good luck; in fact, it was the general comment amongst experts that his luck throughout the match was "dead out" and that he pulled through—so easily solely on account of his decided superiority.

A correspondent who can fairly claim to be an authority on lawn tennis, sends us the following hastily-written notes:—There were several good rallies in the last two sets, but Coxon generally got the best of them, his placing to Braddell's back hand and his volleying short over the net being very effective. Braddell made some very good returns from almost unplayable strokes, but seemed to suffer from want of condition throughout the match, and from my point of view he let Coxon get too far ahead before he began to play his real game. The first and second sets were won by Coxon very easily, Braddell, who appeared to be suffering from nervousness, or to be affected by the sun, played a very tame game and never warmed to his work. In the third set Coxon won the first three games, and it looked all over, bar shouting, but Braddell all of a sudden altered his game, and with Coxon at the same time slackening off a bit, affairs assumed a very different aspect. Braddell, who elected to play at the net, placed extremely well and volleyed with great effect, and brought the score to "5 all" and then ran out. In the fourth set Braddell, continuing to force the pace, won the first game, but Coxon, beginning to realise that affairs were becoming serious, won the next three. Braddell won the fifth game, Coxon the sixth. Braddell took the next, making the score 3-5, but Coxon, not to be denied, won the next game and the match.

THE INTER-PORT BOAT RACES.

FIRST DAY, FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY.

Fine weather favored the promoters of the series of boat races arranged between our Singapore visitors and the members of the Victoria Recreation Club, although a fairly strong wind and sea were probably a drawback to the prospects of the Singapore rowers, who are more accustomed to smooth water. The tug-boat *Pilot Fish*, courteously lent by Mr. Gillies, Secretary to the Dock Company, left Pedder's Wharf for the flag-ship—the Douglas Company's steamer *Hailoong*, kindly placed at the disposal of the Committee by Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co.—at 3 o'clock, and a number of steam launches accompanied the competitors in the various events. A start was made with the four-oared race between Singapore and Hongkong, for which the local rowers were hot favorites, odds of five to one being freely offered against Singapore. That no mistake had been made in estimating the relative abilities of the two boats was very quickly made evident, as Hongkong drew away immediately the signal was given, and was never afterwards approached. The scratch fours produced a capital race, Kennedy, after leading throughout, winning by a length from Skött, who was about the same distance in front of Friedrichs, the latter pulling up grandly in the last three hundred yards. Tregarthen, who represented Singapore in the single sculls, was generally regarded as a certainty, Shepherd being quite out of practice, and single sculling having of late years been almost entirely neglected in Hongkong. The result, however, showed that Tregarthen must be a very much over-rated man, or that he was quite out of form. He sculled in poor style, and although he managed to win by a few feet, it was a palpable fluke, as Shepherd, after wildly steering all over the course, had the race in hand until an accident to the muscles of his right arm brought him to a standstill a few strokes from the winning post. We append details:—

INTER-PORT RACE, (Singapore v. Hongkong; distance one mile. Cup presented by E. R. Belilios, Esq.

HONGKONG.

"Thistle."

A. G. Stephen, 11st. 0lb. (bow)
D. Henderson, 11st. 5lb.
G. A. Bramwell, 12st. 2lb. } 1
D. Kennedy, 12st. 12lb. (str.)
R. de C. Boyd (cox)

SINGAPORE.

"Victoria."

Dr. H. E. Smith, 10st. 9lb. (bow)
R. F. Boileau, 11st. 4lb.
H. Tregarthen, 11st. 11lb. } 2
E. J. Nanson, 10st. 9lb. (str.)
G. A. Caldwell (cox)

Long odds were offered on Hongkong, but Singapore had no backers. The visitors had slightly the best of the start and were well under weigh before Kennedy responded to the starter's signal, but in the first dozen strokes the Hongkong rowers had drawn level, and at once went to the front, pulling splendidly through the rough water, whilst the Singapore men, although keeping good time, appeared unable to make their craft travel. The result, bar accident, was placed beyond doubt in the first three hundred yards, where Hongkong led about three lengths, and this advantage Kennedy was contented to maintain to the finish, the local men winning easily, without once being properly extended. Time 7min. 20 secs.

SCRATCH FOURS; distance one mile.

"Thistle."

T. H. Dalby, 11st. 1lb. (bow)
D. Henderson, 11st. 5lb.
A. G. Stephen, 11st. 0lb. } 1
D. Kennedy, 12st. 12lb. (str.)
R. de C. Boyd (cox)

"Kornblume."

C. H. Thompson, 10st. 5lb. (bow)
G. L. Duncan, 10st. 10lb.
A. Denison, 10st. 10lb. } 2
H. Skött, 11st. 8lb. (str.)
H. W. Sampson (cox)

"Rose."

H. G. Young, 10st. 4lb. (bow)
J. M. Laing, 11st. 5lb.
G. H. Potts, 11st. 11lb. } 3
E. Friedrichs, 13st. 7lb. (str.)
G. A. Caldwell (cox)

The three boats were despatched on their journey to a capital start, but after a few strokes Kennedy, on the extreme outside, drew slightly away and before a quarter of a mile had been covered held a lead of rather over a length from Skött, Friedrichs, although favored with the best position, having already apparently dropped out of the race. Boyd took the leading boat considerably out of its course, so that at the half distance there was really very little difference between Kennedy and Skött, Sampson steering the *Kornblume* a beautifully straight course. Once in the direct line for the flagship, Kennedy spurted, and immediately took a decided lead, which was maintained to the finish, the judge's verdict being rather over a length in favor of the *Thistle*. Friedrichs came with a grand rush at last, and was only beaten a length and a half for second place. Time 7 min. 37 secs.

SINGLE SCULLS.—Hongkong v. Singapore; Cup presented by the Hon. J. J. Keswick; distance one mile.

H. Tregarthen (Singapore), 11st. 11lb. 1
E. B. Shepherd (Hongkong), 10st. 5lb. 2

Tregarthen, who had inside position, was a hot favorite, but very little betting took place. The Singapore man struck the water first and quickly showed in front, Shepherd sculling very indifferently at first, and both men steering a wretched course. Before going three hundred yards Tregarthen was a couple of lengths to the good, and as Shepherd appeared to be stopping, the Singapore representative deliberately crossed in front of his opponent and took his water. A large junk was lying close inshore and whilst Tregarthen got clear nicely, the tide carried Shepherd right inside, which lost him at least fifty yards. On clearing the junk Tregarthen led by about half a dozen lengths, but he was sculling wretchedly and was evidently tiring fast in the somewhat heavy sea that was running. Encouraged by the shouts of his friends Shepherd pegged away manfully and it was soon seen that he was rapidly overhauling the leader. Favored by rather smoother water at last the Hongkong sculler made up his lee-way and about a hundred yards from the winning mark took the lead, Tregarthen being now dead settled. When victory appeared certain the muscles of Shepherd's right arm gave away, which enabled Tregarthen to get up and win by a few feet in the last two strokes.

SECOND DAY, SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY.

The state of the wind and sea was much more favorable for rowing than yesterday, the water

along the Kowloon shore being comparatively smooth. Price dinner commenced with the four-oared race over the mile course between crews representing Singapore, the Navy, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and the Victoria Recreation Club respectively, favoritism being pretty evenly divided between the three local boats. The Singapore rowers' performance yesterday had discounted their prospects of success, and even money was freely offered that they would be last, and one bet of a thousand to twenty was laid against their winning. Hickley got a flying start, but the best of the start and, although very closely pressed, first by the Club and at the finish by the Highlanders, kept in front to the end and scored a handsome victory by about three quarters of a length in the very fast time of 6 min. 50 secs. Singapore was beaten off. The Scratch Fours produced another capital race, Kennedy's crew struggling home a bare half length in front of Friedrichs', with Skött close up to the second boat. Great disappointment was caused when the visitors (Tregarthen and Nanson) withdrew from the double-sculling race, and we are certainly of opinion that, if at all possible, as the challengers they ought to have made some sort of a show, even if they felt sure of being defeated. After the last race the prizes were presented to the successful competitors by Miss Salmon amidst considerable enthusiasm. Particulars of the day's racing are as follows:—

FOUR-OARED RACE between Singapore, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, H.M.S. *Imperieuse*, and the Victoria Recreation Club; first prize, Cup presented by the Hon. C. P. Chater; second prize, Cup presented by J. S. Lapraik, Esq.; distance one mile.

H.M.S. "Imperieuse."

P. Oliver, 9st 10lb. (bow)
H. W. Metcalf, 10st. 1lb.
R. B Garde, 11st. 6lb.
J. D. Hickley, 11st. 11lb (str.)
H. Brocklebank (cox) } 1

A. & S. Highlanders.

W. Thornburn, 10st. 4lb (bow)
Capt Robinson, 11st. 12lb.
D. Henderson, 11st. 5lb.
Capt. Davidson, 12st. 2lb. (str.)
R. de C. Boyd (cox) } 2

Victoria R. C.

A. G. Stephen, 11st. 0lb. (bow)
H. Skött, 11st. 1lb.
G. A. Bramwell, 12st 2 lb.
D. Kennedy, 12st. 12lb. (str.)
H. Sampson (cox) } 3

Singapore.

Dr. H. E Smith, 10st. 9 lb. (bow)
R. F. Baileu, 11 st. 4lb.
H Tregarthen, 11st. 11lb.
E. J. Nanson, 10st. 9lb. (str.)
G. A. Caldwell (cox) } 0

Hickley was quickest under weigh, and after the first hundred yards held a slight lead from the Club, who were being closely pressed by the Highlanders. Singapore, even with the advantage of the second boat in the inside position, was outpaced from the start and never showed prominently in the race. Nanson's crew gradually shook the Naval crew off and got under a length in front of the Club, the Highlanders now gradually over-lapping the Imperieuse. The Club first gave way and then Davidson's crew gradually commenced to creep up on the leader, but Hickley at once responded and a splendid finish ensued, the Naval crew just managing to maintain their lead to the end and win by rather over half a length, with the Club a good third. Singapore was fourth a hundred yards behind the Club. Time 6 min. 50 secs.

SCRATCH FOURS; distance one mile.

"Thistle."

C. H. Thomson, 10st 5lb. (bow)
G. L. Deacon, 10st. 10lb.
D. Henderson, 11st. 5lb.
D. Kennedy, 12st. 12lb. (str.)
R. de C. Boyd (cox) } 1

"Rose."

H. G. Young, 10st 4lb. (bow)
A. M. Berry, 10st. 5lb.
G. H. Potts, 11st. 1lb.
E. Friedrichs, 13st. 7lb.
G. A. Caldwell (cox) } 2

"Kornblume."

T. H. Derby, 11st. 1lb. (bow)
J. M. Laing, 11st. 5lb.
A. G. Stephen, 11st. 0lb.
H. Skött, 11st. 1lb. (str.)
H. Sampson (cox) } 3

Kennedy shot away immediately the gun was fired, and leading all the way won an excellent race by half a length from Friedrichs, who made up a lot of lee-way the last quarter of a mile. Skött was beaten two lengths from the second.

THE WEST POINT BUILDING CO., LIMITED.

The first ordinary meeting of the shareholders in this Company was held this morning (23rd inst.) in the City Hall. There were present:—Hon. J. J. Keswick (chairman), Hon. C. P. Chater, and J. S. Moses (Directors), Messrs. H. N. Mody, M. Grote, W. D Ezekiel, S. I. Danby, A. G. Morris, S. S. Benjamin, Ho Tung, and others, and A. S. Hooper (secretary).

The Chairman said—This meeting, as you know, has been called for the purpose of receiving the report and accounts up to the end of December last. I don't propose to read the report, as it has been in your hands for some time, so we will take it as read. I have very little to add to what I said at the statutory meeting, when I told you that the property was well let, on leases expiring in June next, to which were attached the option of renewing for another year.—He then moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet.

Mr. Grote seconded. Carried.

Mr. Ezekiel moved Mr. Keswick's re-election as Chairman.

Mr. Mody seconded. Carried.

Mr. Morris proposed the re-election of Messrs. Chater and Moses, the retiring directors.

Mr. Danby seconded. Carried.

Mr. F. N. Graça moved, and Mr. G. M. Graça seconded, the re-appointment of Mr. F. Henderson as auditor. That having been agreed to, the proceedings terminated.

THE KOWLOON LAND & BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the first report of the Board of Directors to the ordinary meeting of shareholders to be held at the Company's offices, at 3 p.m. on Friday, 31st January, 1890:—

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Company, and Balance Sheet for the seven months ending 31st December, 1889.

The net profits amount to $1,637.15, derived from interest and fees for the issue of new share certificates. The Directors recommend that this sum be carried forward to new Profit and Loss account.

The Directors after consultation with the Shareholders approved a scheme for laying out the Company's property, and they have now the pleasure of informing the Shareholders that a contract for building 16 houses has been entered into, six of which will be ready in twelve months, another six in eighteen months, and the remainder in 22 months and it is hoped that they will yield a satisfactory return.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. Fullarton Henderson was requested to join the Board on the 10th July last, and his election now requires confirmation.

The Hon. P. Ryrie and Mr. F. D'A. Gomes retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs Thos. Arnold and R. Lyall, who retire and offer themselves for re-election.

P. RYRIE,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1890.

BALANCE SHEET.

Liabilities.

Amount of Capital:		
6,000 shares of $30 each	$180,000.00	
Less Calls unpaid	$19,680.00	
Shares unallotted	1,200.00	
	20,880.00	
		159,120.00
Sundry Creditors		100.00
Amount at Credit of Profit and Loss Account		1,637.15
		$160,857.15

Assets.

Cash	$ 90,930.03
Cost of Property	67,387.00
Balance of Preliminary Expenses	1,085.78
Interest due	1,454.34
	$100,857.15

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.

To amount of bad debts written off		$ 262.50
" amount written off the following:—		
Preliminary expenses	$ 120.64	
Charges account	190.26	
		310.90
" Auditors' Fees,		100.00
" Balance carried forward		1,637.15
		$2,310.55

Cr.

By Interest	$2,290 00
" Scrip Fees,	20 06
	$2,310.55

A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary to The Hongkong Land Investment & Agency Co., Ld.
Agents for The Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ld.

We have compared the above statement with the Books, Vouchers and Securities of the Company and have found the same to be correct.

THOS. ARNOLD,
R. LYALL, } Auditors.

Hongkong, 23rd January, 1890.

THE HONGKONG STEAM LAUNDRY COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the Report for presentation to the shareholders at the fourth ordinary yearly meeting to be held at the Hongkong Hotel on Monday the 3rd February, 1890, at 4 p.m.:—

The Directors have now to submit to you a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1889, showing a balance at debit of $20,215.86.

The Directors have received offers for the purchase of the property during the past year, but they were not considered sufficiently inducing to cause their entertainment and submission to the shareholders.

BUILDINGS.

The dwelling house has been leased the whole of the past year, and is still leased. The late tenant of the godown gave up the premises last November, and the Directors are now in treaty for another lease.

The buildings are all in good order, only some slight repairs to the roof being necessary.

MACHINERY.

The machinery requires a slight overhaul, and these together with those above mentioned would probably amount to about $300.

DIRECTORS.

In accordance with clause 73 of the Articles of Association, Messrs. E. L. Woodin and Andrew Johnston retire in rotation from the Board, but being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The Accounts have been audited by Mr. E. S. Wheraller, who offers himself for re-election.

E. L. WOODIN,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1890.

January 1st to 31st December, 1889.

ASSETS.

To Real Estate,		$ 4,889.69
" Buildings,		21,695.41
" Machinery,		19,599.68
" Laundry Shares,—		
25 Shares Hongkong Steam Laundry, (A. Bain),	$1,250.00	
5 Shares Hongkong Steam Laundry, (G. Stainfield),	250.00	
	1,500.00	
	20,215.86	
	$67,900.64	

LIABILITIES.

By Capital, 999 Shares	$49 950.00
" Hongkong Bank	17,838.00
" Cash	2.38
" Accounts Payable	100.00
	$67,900.64

Dr. WORKING ACCOUNT.

To Balance	$20,288.49
" Crown Rent	480 00
" Taxes	54.17
" Charges	318.55
" Insurance	67.70
" Salaries and Wages	112.00
" Interest	1,259.95
" Auditor's Fee	10.00
	$22,590.86

Cr.

By Rent to 31st December, 1889,	$ 2,375.00
" Balance,	20,215.80
	$22,590.86

E. & O. E.

A. O'D. GOURDIN,
Manager.

I have compared the above Statement with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, and certify the same to be correct.

E. S. WHEALLER,
Auditor.

Hongkong, 25th January, 1890.

THE LYNDHURST TERRACE FIRE.

Mr. Woodhouse held an inquiry yesterday, at the Magistracy, into the circumstances attending the fire at the Fashion Emporium, 8 Lyndhurst Terrace, which occurred on Saturday at midnight. —Mr. Wilkinson watched the case on behalf of the owner of the shop, and Mr. Wotton was present as representing the Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.

John Gomes, manager of the shop, said that he left the premises on the night of the fire, about 8.30, and visited his father, who keeps the "Globe" Hotel. He returned and locked up the place at 9 o'clock. He put up the shutters and turned out all the lights. He then went to the Union Club, where he heard of the fire about midnight. He ran back and tried to save the books, but was unable to do so. They were the books produced, and were written up to the end of the year. The business had been conducted for nearly four years, and the place and stock were insured for $10,000, on two policies. The morning after the fire he found his desk and cash-box broken open, and forwarded them to the police. He believed that somebody broke into the shop and after robbing it set it on fire; $230 or $240 had been taken from the cash-box. He was only the manager of the place, getting $25 or $30 a month from his father. The contents of the shop consisted of dress-materials, millinery, etc.

Sergeant Kemp, of the Fire Brigade, described the appearance of the fire when he arrived. He could not see where the fire had broken out, nor could he find it out on subsequent examination. It had apparently started among the shelves at the back. He did not think that anyone had previously broken into the place.

Detective Haddon stated that when he went into the shop he saw a lot of paper blazing on the floor.

At this stage his Worship adjourned the inquiry, so that the place might be examined.

ACCIDENT AT THE CHINESE THEATRE.

On the afternoon of the 22nd inst. an alarming rumour gained currency that one of the two Chinese theatres here had collapsed, and hundreds of lives been lost. On inquiry we ascertained that something of the sort really had occurred, but with by no means such shocking results. About three o'clock a performance was being given in the Tung Hing theatre, in a street off Hollywood Road, opposite the Chinese Recreation Ground, when the wooden roof over one side of the gallery was heard to crack. Immediately the hundred or two hundred persons seated below made for one corner, from whence they could jump on to the stage, but before they could all escape in that way the light rafters came down, and the roof after them, a distance of about twenty feet. The principal damage was probably done in the crush, but a score or so of Chinese were cut and bruised by the falling tiles. The fall only extended over a small area, and fortunately no fatalities resulted, or, at least, have yet been reported. Three men who were rather badly hurt, and a lot more who had received superficial injuries, were taken to the Tung-wa Hospital, on the other side of the street. The three first mentioned were sent to the Civil Hospital, but the rest were treated in native fashion, rubbed with vinegar, etc., and sent home. The wonder is that, in the panic which ensued on the fall, numerous fatalities did not occur, and it is principally attributable to the width of the stairs and exits that that was the case. The fractured beams, on examination, shewed that they had been eaten through by white ants, and that the whole building is dangerous.

THE BALANCE OF POWER.

The answer to the question—where is the Government of China?—gradually unfolds itself from the scroll of contemporary history, and it cannot be denied that we now possess a more definite notion of what China is, and how governed, than those who were obliged to take practical decisions on these questions in the last generation. "More" definite, perhaps, yet far from quite definite. Indeed, from the nature of the case it would appear that the key to the focussing of the true seat of authority at any given time is neither to be found in written formula nor traditional principle. There is an element of fluidity about it by virtue of which it shifts about like the air bubble in a spirit level, and it requires close observation of the panorama of passing events to detect from day to day where is the centre of vitality in the state. The provincial governors, we have seen, are all-powerful within their own jurisdictions, and within well understood limits; but their being subject to instant removal by a word from the Throne, and that not merely in theory, gives to their power a strictly subordinate character. According to the constitution there is, in fact, no valid authority in the State save that of the Emperor, who makes such use of the Six Boards as he sees fit, and takes the advice of his Council when it suits him. Such is the only possible theory of Chinese Government which can serve as the basis of official life in the country, or of political relations outside of it. Yet we have seen that in practice there are hidden forces which control and modify the exercise of this nominally absolute power. The Emperor is like a strong man in fetters, or under the influence, more or less intermittent, of paralysing drugs; and without fully gauging the strength of these influences, which are also themselves subject to infinite fluctuation, it will be always impossible to measure the force of the Imperial will or forecast its action in any given emergency. But the more we know of these various hidden forces the more seems to remain veiled, so that we may qualify still further the remark with which we set out and say, not that our knowledge is more definite, but rather that we can more clearly perceive its limitations.

The leading powers in the State whose strength has been tested during the past year in a most interesting manner are the Emperor, the Empress-Dowager, the Seventh Prince, and the Viceroy Li. All other authorities fall into secondary places, including the provincial governors and viceroys, whose collective weight falls short of that of Li Hung-chang alone. At least until lately, for the sudden assertion of individuality by Chang Chih-tung has established the claim of that energetic satrap to be reckoned among the ruling factors. For now nearly thirty years the affairs of the State have been guided by the Empress-Dowager, who was Regent through two long minorities. In the beginning she was young, and of course wholly inexperienced in either foreign or domestic political affairs, while the circumstances of the country were extraordinarily critical and the fate of the dynasty itself undoubtedly hung by a thread. The Empress was supported with patriotic devotion by her brother-in-law, Prince Kung, and a statesman of remarkable capacity as well as political virtue, Wen-hsiang; and the forbearance and even active sympathy of foreign powers during a period of unparalleled trial helped to smooth their path. The obvious disqualifications of a young woman untrained to business for the *rôle* which the Empress-Regent was called on to play were counterbalanced by the unassailable legal position which belonged to her as the mother of the infant Emperor. By virtue of that alone she held her place concurrently with the Eastern Empress, the first consort of the deceased Hien-fêng, a lady of pure and pious character, but without the turn for statecraft which the Western Empress so rapidly developed. The balance of power between the two Regents was skilfully maintained by Prince Kung during all the minority of Tung-che, but so well did the Western Empress acquire, in the school of experience, the knowledge and the art of governing, that when in process of time her legal status in the Empire was lost through the death of her son, and there was absolutely nothing left to connect her with the succession to the Throne, her own dominant will made her mistress of the situation. Selecting another infant heir she had him brought into the Palace in a cold January night and posthumously adopted as the son of Hien-fêng, thereby binding in the ties of gratitude the father of that child, and securing for herself a further long lease of power, in which the death of the Eastern Empress now left her without a rival. The burden of State affairs became to her a veritable passion which, outlying the more transient passions of youth, still possesses her in the retirement which she, with evident reluctance, had eventually to accept. Of all the characters which have walked the Chinese political stage during the past thirty years we may boldly say that not one has exhibited the perspicacity, personal courage, and statesman-like grasp of affairs in a degree at all comparable to that distinguished lady, and it cannot be considered as otherwise than unfortunate that in the very maturity of her experience and the zenith of her energy her services should be lost to the country. It was by no means her intention that she should be cut off entirely from the control of affairs; her conventional protestations must be taken in the *nolo episcopari* sense; but, once placed outside the regular machinery of government, her influence could only be maintained through her personal ascendancy over the young Emperor working through extra-official channels. Most important it was, of course, among other precautions elaborated during many years, to plant in the Imperial bosom a *confidante* on whom Her Majesty could always rely to convey her desires in the most taking manner to the young monarch. Equally important was it to utilise to the utmost the unique position of the Emperor's father, whose paternal influence was essential to the success of the Dowager's plans; and whose public offices in connection with the Army and Navy placed also a certain amount of substantive power in his own hands. The triangular compact seemed to promise well in the beginning, and the young Emperor was for a while guided by the parental counsels of the Seventh Prince and the Empress-Dowager. But as might have been, and doubtless was foreseen, this combination was too menacing to the other principalities and powers, and the latent forces of the opposition were roused into sudden activity to prevent the consummation of a pact which would leave them in the cold shade for an indefinite time. An attack had therefore to be made on the Empress and the Seventh Prince, the objective being to gain possession of the Emperor. The Railway projects of last year afforded the providential opportunity. The Seventh Prince was committed to the scheme as head of the Board of Admiralty, the Dowager was known to be the real mover, and the Emperor himself had touched the proposals with the vermilion pencil. It was a bold assault on a strong position, but the assailants had well calculated the dormant powers which favoured them; and how completely they succeeded has been recorded in the columns of the newspapers during the past year. The effect of this attack has been to loosen the joints of the tripartite alliance, and to encourage all descriptions of opposition. The Seventh Prince was of course easily disconcerted, being a weak man and occupying a delicate position in the State which is destined to arouse the fiercest contention that has yet raged within the precincts of the Imperial City, the presentiment of which, added to his constitutional timidity, reduces His Highness to a political pulp. A most unstable prop for Her Majesty to rely on. Within the palace, too, matters did not favour the Dowager's plans. There is, of course, more than one occupant of the Imperial harem, and as young men—old, too—will have their fancies, others besides the Dowager were in possession of avenues of access to the monarch in his yielding moments. That the influences so exercised have been unwise, ignorant, and ill-directed could be easily shown, and it might be safe to predict grief as the certain result. But in the meantime the plain fact has to be recognized that the bonds which attached the Emperor to his adopted mother have been relaxed, and he has been drawn very perceptibly toward the side of her enemies. The influence heretofore exercised, irregularly, be it admitted, by the Seventh Prince and the Dowager, is now gravitating towards the Great Council which has the ambition to resume its legitimate *rôle* in the conduct of affairs.

The above sketch is far, however, from exhausting the subject of our article. The affairs of the empire could hardly have been conducted with even the slight show of consistency that has marked them, nor could the government have maintained the fairly creditable position before the world that it has done were there not some powerful flywheel outside the engine house steadying and equalising the pressure of affairs, and preventing violence and explosion. Beyond the arena of palace intrigues, the malice of discontented placemen, the happy hunting ground of eunuchs and concubines, there is really in China a weather-beaten old pilot, who, according to the light that is in him, has done his best to keep the ship off the breakers, and even to make it appear that she is really heading for some destination, without whom the most utter shipwreck would have been effected many times over,—and that is Li Hung-chang. The China which is known to the West is in fact the China of Li Hung-chang, but the position of that statesman is so interesting, and in some respects as unique and irregular as that of the other personages whom we have mentioned, that we could not attempt to discuss it at the fag end of an article.—*Chinese Times.*

SWATOW.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

SWATOW, January 24th, 1890.

There was a pleasant little stir here on the 4th inst. occasioned by the marriage of Miss Mary Henriette, eldest surviving daughter of Capt. A. L. Piersdorf, Double Island, to Mr. J. H. Noodt, of the Imperial Chinese Customs, Lappa, Macao.

The ceremony took place first at 10.30 a.m. in H. I. G. M.'s Consulate, and was subsequently solemnised in Kak-Chio Church at 11.30 a.m. The Rev. Mr. Gibson officiated. There was a large attendance in the church, which was handsomely decorated by the ladies of Kak-Chio, who used their utmost endeavours to enhance the joyousness of the affair. Mr. H. Æ. Sidford presided at the organ. The bride looked charming in a splendid white brocaded satin dress. She was attended by her sister, Miss Amanda Caroline Piersdorf, as bridesmaid, who looked very pretty in rich white cashmere. Captain Piersdorf gave his daughter away.

The middle aisle of the church was strewn with flowers and as Mr. and Mrs. Noodt emerged from the church door they were greeted with copious showers of rice.—In fact, there was such a perfect storm of it that the bridesmaid and several guests who were in the line of fire were riddled, at least, they would have been had the rice been shot.

There were a steam-launch and house-boat in readiness at the British Consular jetty to take the guests down to Double Island, the house-boat for the ladies and the steam-launch for the gentlemen. The weather was all that could be desired—bright sunshine and balmy air. All the steamers in harbour were dressed and during the passage down to the Island the launch with the houseboat in tow replied vigorously to a salute of three long blows from the fast Hongkong mail packet *Thales*.

Owing to the strong flood tide the run down occupied about an hour and a quarter. I presume the ladies passed the time away pleasantly enough in their own fashion on board the houseboat. The only gentleman who remained with them was the bridegroom, who acted as escort to his bride and the ladies generally.

On arrival at "the Island" the guests, numbering about 30, repaired to Captain Piersdorf's house, which was artistically decorated with evergreens and bunting; the flags of the Great Powers being conspicuous.

In the drawing-room the presents, which were both numerous and costly, were on view: these absorbed the attention of the majority of the ladies until breakfast was announced at 2.15 p.m. The report was most excellent, and everybody was in the best of good humour. The usual toasts and speeches inseparable from such an event took place of course. The guests rose from the table at 5 o'clock. Owing to the distance between Swatow and Double Island the majority of them reluctantly said "Good night" shortly afterwards. Thus closed one of the happiest social gatherings that has ever taken place in Swatow.

I am not finished with "nuptial ties" yet, though. I think that nothing interests ladies more than detailed accounts of banns, marriages, etc., in which minute descriptions of what the bride and bridesmaids wore (and what they didn't wear) must be given.

In Swatow we will require a "Miss Mantalini", standing by to write the dress parts out if much more of this "love, honour and cherish" business goes on. The port is a veritable dove-cot, but I am sorry to have to say that the number of doves is fast diminishing. Those that are left, however, are as comely as those who have taken the oath to "love, honour and obey".

On Saturday the 18th inst. another marriage was celebrated. In this instance it was Miss Jessie Stuart Pollock, only daughter of Mr. Wm. Pollock, of the Imperial Chinese Customs, to Mr. C. Pape, also of the Customs at Kowloon. The Customs is shewing up strong in love alliances, the members of this Service being especially noted, I believe, for their susceptible hearts. The ceremony took place at the house of the bride's father "a l'Ecossais."

We now have to leave these festive subjects behind and turn our thoughts and attention to an event which is one of the innumerable examples of the uncertainty of this life. The China Navigation Company's steamship *Sungkiang* left Shanghai for Swatow *via* Wuhu on the 11th inst. Captain Glasson was in command, and at Woosung and Wuhu complained of not feeling well, but manfully stuck to his post. The *Sungkiang* arrived here on the morning of Monday the 20th inst. at 11.30, with the Doctor's flag flying at the fore, and we could see that a stranger was on the bridge, who afterwards turned out to be the chief officer. Captain Glasson was lying in his bunk at that time. The doctor went on board and at once pronounced the case to be small-pox of a very virulent type. Poor Glasson was immediately removed to the hospital at Kak-Chio, and throughout Monday night and all day on Tuesday remained most of the time insensible. A few short periods of consciousness, however, came, in one of which he made his will, and at about 11 o'clock the same night he breathed his last. The funeral took place on Wednesday morning at 10.30, and was attended by all the Europeans in Swatow. The flags of all the shipping in the harbour, the Customs, and the Consulates were half-mast during the day as a tribute of respect to the memory of one, who but a short time ago was with us in life and health.

This sad news will greatly grieve Captain Glasson's many friends on the China coast. A bigger-hearted or more genial companion than Captain Glasson never existed, and the China Navigation Company have lost one of their smartest skippers. *Requiescat in pace.*

The Custom House has been closed from the 20th inst. until the 24th, for the China New Year holidays, but work will soon be in full swing again.

KOREA.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CHEMULPO, January 8th.

During the N.Y.K.S.S. *Owari-maru's* stay in port no less than five merchant steamers and one Chinese gunboat were in the inner harbour, viz.:—the Japanese steamers *Higo-maru* and *Owari-maru*, the Chinese steamer *Chintsung*, the German steamer *Signal*, the Korean steamer *Hairlong*, and Chinese gunboat *Chin-hai*. The *Signal* and *Hairlong* were discharging rice for the Southern ports. When the *Owari* left the naval force had been augmented by the arrival of the U.S.S. *Marion* and the Japanese cruiser *Tsuku-shi Kan*. The harbour was still free from ice, and the Seoul river was reported open as far as Mapo.

In consequence of inconvenience being experienced by regular traders to this port, through the overcrowding of the inner harbour, a petition has been addressed to the Municipal Council by a number of shipmasters, urging the advisability of relegating men-of-war to the outer anchorage. In connection with this it is said that it has been decided to lay down eleven mooring buoys in the inner harbour, in order to economise the limited space. Seven or eight of the buoys will probably be laid down during the course of the present year.

Dr. Allen, ex-Secretary to the Korean Legation in Washington, returned per *Owari-maru*.

Dr. Allee, of the U.S.S. *Marion*, left per *Owari-maru* to join the *Palos* at Nagasaki, in consequence of Dr. Baker having to be left behind sick.

The chartered Norwegian steamer *Bankeet Hinrikson* has gone to Chinsu, on the south coast, to take in a cargo of tribute rice for the capital.

It is said that the Chinese merchants are going to run a steamer twice a month between Shanghai and Korea.

The bean harvest in Korea last year must have been very plentiful, as larger quantities than usual are being shipped.

I have it on good authority that Ping Yang, one of the most important ports on the northernmost coast of Corea, will be opened as a treaty port in the ensuing spring.—*Nagasaki Rising Sun.*

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(From Messrs. Geo. Falconer & Co.'s Register.)

	To-day.
Barometer—9 a.m.	30.15
Barometer—4 p.m.	30.17
Barometer—9 p.m.	30.18
Thermometer—9 a.m.	54
Thermometer—4 p.m.	55
Thermometer—9 p.m.	55
Thermometer—9 a.m. (Wet bulb)	52
Thermometer—4 p.m. (Wet bulb)	52
Thermometer—9 p.m. (Wet bulb)	52
Thermometer—Minimum (on grass)	50

Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—194 per cent. premium, sellers.
Union Insurance Society of Canton—$103 per share, buyers.
China Traders' Insurance Company—$72 per share, buyers.
North China Insurance—Tls. 350 per share, buyers.
Canton Insurance Company, Limited—$130 per share.
Yangtsze Insurance Association—Tls. 96 per share.
On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tls. 150 per share.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—$402½ per share, sellers.
China Fire Insurance Company—$89 per share, buyers.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company—60 per cent. premium, sellers.
Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—$41 per share, sellers.
China and Manila Steam Ship Company—120 per share, buyers.
Hongkong Gas Company—$135 per share, sellers.
Hongkong Hotel Company—$200 per share, sellers.
Hongkong Hotel Co.'s Six per cent. Debentures—$501.
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—12½ per cent. dis., buyers.
Douglas Steamship Company—$64 per share, sellers.
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—$226 per share, sellers.
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—$71 per share, sellers.
Hongkong Ice Company—$110 per share, buyers.
Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—$80 per share.
Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—$14 per share, sellers.
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—$23 per share, sellers.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—4½ per cent. premium, sellers.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.
Chinese Imperial Loan of 1886 E—11 per cent. premium.
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Limited—$104 per share, sellers.
The Hongkong Steam Laundry Co., Ld.—$25 per share.
Punjom and Sunghie Dua Samantan Mining Co.—$151 per share, sellers.
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—$100 per share, sellers.
Tonquin Coal Mining Co.—$450 per share, sellers.
The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—200 per cent. prem., sellers.
The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—$61 per share, sellers.
The Songei Koyah Planting Co., Ld.—$61 per share, buyers.
Cruickshank & Co., Ld.—$40 per share, nom.
The Steam Launch Co., Limited—nominal.
The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Co., Ld.—par, nominal.
The China-Borneo Co., Ld.—$38 per share, sellers.
The Hongkong Brick and Cement Co., Ld.—$18 per share, sellers.
The Green Island Cement Co. (Old Issue)—$43 per share, buyers.
The Green Island Cement Co. (New Issue)—$5 per share, buyers.
The Hongkong Land Investment Co., Ld.—$101, ex. div., per share, buyers.
The Hongkong Electric Light Co., Ld.—$4 per share, buyers.
Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited—$30 per share, buyers.
The West Point Buildings Co., Ld.—$46 per share, buyers.
The Peak Hotel and Trading Co., Ld.—$20 per share, sellers.
The Labuk Planting Co., Ld.—$25 per share, nominal.
The Jelebu Mining and Trading Co., Ld.—$5 per share, buyers.
The Selama Tin Mining Co., Ld.—$31 per share, buyers.
The Shameen Hotel Co., Ld.—$5 per share, nominal.
The Kowloon Land Investment Co., Ld.—$17 per share, sellers.
The Hongkong Marine, Limited—25 per cent. premium, buyers.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank, T. T. 3/2½
Bank Bills, on demand 3/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 3/2½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight 3/3
Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight 3/3½
ON PARIS.—
Bank Bills, on demand 4.02
Credits, at 4 months' sight 4.11
ON INDIA, T. T. ..... 219 nom.
On Demand 221
ON SHANGHAI.—
Bank, T. T. ..... 71 nom.
Private, 30 days' sight 72½

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

27th January, 1890.—At 4 p.m.

STATION	Barometer Reduced to Sea Level	Temperature in the Shade	Dew Point	Humidity	Wind. Direction	Wind. Force	Weather	Rainfall in Inches
Wladiwostock	30.15	5	—	88	S	1	b	—
Tokyo	30.08	46	38	71	W	2	c	—
Nagasaki	29.72	48	46	88	W	2	o	0.56
Shanghai	30.09	52	48	83	WNW	1	c	—
Amoy	30.07	60	52	68	W	2	c	—
Hongkong	30.03	58	54	86	W	0	o	—
Haiphong	30.02	66	56	69	W	1	c	—
Bolinao	29.92	82	65	59	W	1	c	—
Manila	29.90	68	61	86	W	1	c	—
Aspiring								

28th January, 1890.—At 10 a.m.

STATION	Barometer Reduced to Sea Level	Temperature in the Shade	Dew Point	Humidity	Wind. Direction	Wind. Force	Weather	Rainfall in Inches
Wladiwostock	30.14	5	—	76	WSW	3	b	—
Tokyo	30.18	46	—	—	—	0	c	—
Nagasaki	30.18	48	45	76	ESE	1	c	—
Shanghai	30.23	56	50	80	ESE	2	c	—
Amoy	30.17	62	54	74	ESE	2	c	0.16
Hongkong	30.11	67	59	74	ESE	1	c	0.03
Haiphong	30.10	68	60	74	ESE	1	c	—
Bolinao	29.98	82	70	74	W	4	b	—
Manila	29.96	80	70	74	W	4	b	—
Aspiring								

The barometer has risen greatly in China, and gradients are rather steep for north-east winds. Cloudy, very cold and rather dry weather prevails.

1—Barometer reduced to level of the sea in inches, parts and hundredths. 2—Temperature in the shade in degrees Fahrenheit. 3—Humidity in percentage of saturation, the humidity of air saturated with moisture being 100. 4—Direction of the wind to two points. 5—Force of the wind, according to Beaufort scale. 6—State of the weather, b Blue sky, c Detached clouds, d Dividing rain, f Fog, g Gloomy, h Hail, l Lightning, o Overcast, p Passing showers, q Squally, r Rain, s Snow, t Thunder, v Visibility, w Dew, wet, z—Rain in inches, tenths and hundredths. W. DOBERCK.

Hongkong Observatory, 28th January, 1890.

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